Never Sheathe the Sword
Until Victory Is Won

Nippon Times

The Die Is Cast, Let's
Fight to the Last!

No. 16,077 (THE 18th YEAR of SHOWA) TOKYO, MONDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1943 第三種郵便物認可 昭和十八年十二月二十七日 Price 15 Sen

BIG RAILROAD STRIKE THREATENS AMERICA AS ZERO HOUR NEARS

President Roosevelt's Offer of Mediation Rejected by 1,200,000 Workers

SITUATION CRITICAL

Taking Over of Railway Business by Government Looms As Possibility

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 24.—A general railway strike in America is considered by observers as inevitable after the railway workers rejected the idea of President Roosevelt mediating in the dispute between them and the railway companies.

Late on the night of December 23 the authorities of the White House issued a statement on the progress of the negotiations carried on by the Government with the parties to the railway dispute with a view to ending the threat of a general railway strike. In another statement they made it clear that the Government is ready to take over all the railways if necessity arises. This statement follows:

"President Roosevelt on December 23 ordered Francis Biddle, U.S. Attorney-General to prepare documents necessary for the taking over of the railways by the Government. The date on which the railways will be taken over has not been fixed yet.

Roosevelt Instructs Biddle

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 24.—President Roosevelt has instructed Attorney-General Francis Biddle to prepare all the necessary papers for the Government's taking over of the nation's railroads if it should be necessary to head off the general strike scheduled for December 30, according to a Washington dispatch.

If Roosevelt should seize the railroads for operation by the Government, as was done during the last war, about 300 lines operating 242,000 miles of track would be affected.

Previously, the United States President had asked the railroads and five operating and 15 non-operating rail brotherhoods to submit the wage dispute to him as arbiter. The railroads agreed, and so did the two largest of the operating brotherhoods—engineers and trainmen. However, three operating brotherhoods and the non-operating brotherhoods did not immediately accept the President mediation offer.

Crisis Looms

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 24.—Following the move on the part of President Roosevelt to mediate it looked as though the railway dispute in America would come to an abrupt end.

But this was not the case. It was only two railway workers' brotherhoods that accepted the President's offer of mediation. Three other workers' brotherhoods and 15 others who are not train crew members peremptorily rejected the President's offer.

Thus the dispute has revived, and there has loomed the possibility of the strike tying up all the railways in America on December 30.

James Byrnes, Director of the Wartime Mobilization Bureau, acting on behalf of President Roosevelt, who was away at Hyde Park, invited the representatives of 15 brotherhoods of non-operating brotherhoods to the White House on December 24 and demanded that they accept the President's mediation in the dispute.

The representatives declined, insisting that the question of wages should be settled by direct negotiation between the representatives of the workers and the companies.

After the meeting the representatives of the railway workers revealed that they had presented to the companies demands for a wage increase of from 10 to 16 cents an hour. They said that possibly they might meet Byrnes again on December 25 or 26.

Observers think that the meeting of December 24 between Byrnes and the representatives of the railway workers ended virtually in a rupture of the negotiations between the Government and the workers.

The railway workers who are heading for a final show-down with

(Continued on Page 2)

Anglo-U.S. Aviators To Be Tried by Reich As 'War Criminals'

Domei

LISBON, December 24.—The British and American fliers who raided Nuremberg and Hamburg will be the first anti-Axis prisoners to be tried by Germany as "war criminals" in retaliation for the recent hanging by the Soviets of three German officers after the trail at Kharkov, according to reports received here. The Paris Radio announced that the airmen who took part in the attacks on Nuremberg would first face trial on the charge of violating international law as they had bombed women and children. Berlin said that the Anglo-American aviators who attacked Hamburg would be arraigned with civilian witnesses. Previously, Berlin reports said that President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill were responsible for the Kharkov trial, and now Germany regards herself entitled to establish by legally unobjectionable methods whether the crews of the British and American planes are guilty of war crimes.

U.S. STEEL WORKERS EXPECTED TO STRIKE

Contracts Expired on December 24—Murray Backs Employes' Demands

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 25.—An acute phase of labor unrest threatens to come in the United States as the year draws to a close, with 350,000 workers in iron and steel works throughout the country getting ready to strike if their proposals for wage increases are not accepted, according to New York dispatches.

The threatened general walk-out of iron and steel workers comes on top of a series of labor disputes, the latest of which is that between the railway workers and their employers which may tie up all the railways in America within a few days.

It was when their old wage contracts expired on December 24 that the iron and steel workers, belonging to the Congress of Industrial Organization, began to agitate for wage increases, and some of them left their work immediately after the contracts ran out. In Ohio alone there are on strike 40,000 iron workers employed at four iron works. The men went on strike early on the morning of December 25.

Reports indicate that the strike of the iron and steel workers already affects all the factories of the Republic Steel Company and number of iron plate and iron tube factories in Youngtown, a blast furnace company in Pennsylvania, and the factories of an iron-cast company in Hubbard, Ohio.

The attitude of iron and steel workers in other places toward the dispute is not known as they are away from their places of work because of Christmas. It is generally understood that unless a new situation arises during December 26, they will go on strike on December 27.

The present dispute arose out of the refusal of the Wartime Labor Bureau to approve the proposals for new contracts providing for higher wages made by the workers following the expiration of the old contracts. Phillip Murray, president of the Congress of Industrial Organization, who holds the additional post of president of the Iron and Steel Workers' Union, issued on December 25 a statement, saying that the Wartime Labor Bureau was responsible for the present serious situation, thereby indicating that he is backing the workers in their threatened general strike.

Trial for Fascist Betrayers

Domei

ROME, December 25.—The Fascist Republican Government of Italy has decided to place the 19 members of the Fascist Grand Council who betrayed Premier Benito Mussolini on a public trial. It is reported that their voting at the historic session of the Grand Council will not be questioned, but they will be tried on the ground that they plotted to cause the downfall of the Fascist regime at secret meetings held at a certain hotel in Rome. The 19 members of the Grand Council have not been arrested yet as they have fled from Rome.

BRITISH DESIGN SEEN BEHIND APPOINTMENT OF GEN. EISENHOWER

Britain Hoping to Use U.S. Troops in Coming European Offensive

AMERICANS DUPED AGAIN

Yanks Expected to Put Out 73 Per Cent of Military Forces In Attack

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 25.—Although the appointment of General Dwight Eisenhower as the Supreme Commander of Anglo-American forces against the Axis Nations had rejoiced the American public as a great concession on the part of the British, it is nothing but a crafty British political trick to make the United States pick the chestnuts out of the fire for her. The proposed general attack on Europe is extremely dangerous, and it is the British plan to make the American forces undertake it.

"The surrender to an American of the supreme command of not only the American forces but also British forces in Britain is a great concession of the British Government," reported the Associated Press from Washington.

Senator Edwin Johnson, from Colorado, a member of the Senate Military Committee, however, commented that, according to absolutely reliable sources, it has been decided that, in the coming offensive operation against Europe, the United State Army will supply 73 per cent of the required strength and the British Army 23 per cent and that therefore, it is natural that an American should be appointed the Supreme Commander. "The United States Army must supply the majority of the fighting strength required and shoulder most of the fighting," he said.

Although serious criticisms by those who are advocating the Pacific-First principle may be forthcoming, Jack Bell, A.P. correspondent at Washington, reported that as the British Army has no surplus strength to supply an unlimited number of soldiers for the European offensive, the United States Army has consequently come to play the main role in the coming offensive against Europe."

YANK SOLDIERS HIT FOR MISBEHAVIOUR

New Caledonia Governor Makes Open Charge

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 24.—Christian Laigre', Governor of New Caledonia, openly charged that American and Negro troops stationed in Noumea misbehaved and were the "terror of white women," according to anti-Axis press agency reports from Noumea, French New Caledonia.

The Governor also declared that the population of New Caledonia suffered from "the thoughtlessness of United States troops."

It was also reported that Major-General Rush Lincoln, Commander of the United States Forces in New Caledonia," declined to comment on the issue."

Governor Laigret also bitterly criticized the establishment of non-profit canteens for American troops

PREMIER NURI REBUFFED

Jamil Al-Midfai Refuses to Join Cabinet

Domei

ISTANBUL, December 25.—Iraqi Premier Nuri Es-Said who was commanded by Regent Prince Emir Abdu Illah to form a new cabinet has been eagerly trying to organize a strong cabinet with influential statesmen, but as Jamil Al-Midfai, former Premier, refused to join his cabinet, his task of forming a new strong cabinet has not yet succeeded, according to Ankara reports.

Pope Speaks to World

Domei

LISBON, December 24.—Pope Pius XII, in his Christmas message to the world, prayed that this will be the last Christmas of the war, and appealed to mankind to begin planning the world's reconstruction and a peace of justice and honesty, according to reports from the Vatican.

F.D.R. Warns U.S. People Of Difficult Years Ahead

President Tells Listeners They Must Expect 'Further Sufferings, Sacrifice and Personal Tragedy' in Christmas Eve Radio Speech

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 24.—President Roosevelt, in a lengthy Christmas Day message to the American people and armed forces overseas, broadcast from his home at Hyde Park, New York, warned his listeners that they still have much to face in the way of "further suffering, sacrifice and personal tragedy."

Roosevelt devoted a considerable portion of his speech to report on the Cairo and Teheran conferences. Regarding the meeting with Chiang Kai-shek, the United States President said: "We were not only able to decide on a definite military strategy, but also on many long-range principles concerning East Asia."

Disregarding the Anglo-American imperialistic actions in East Asia, Roosevelt said that the aforementioned principles involve "the restoration of stolen property to the rightful owners, and recognition of the rights of millions of people in that region to build up their own forms of self-government without molestation."

Bombastically, Roosevelt said, "permanent elimination of the Empire of Japan" is essential to "peace and security in the Pacific and the rest of the world."

In an attempt obviously to minimize the pain experienced by the American people caused by the heavy losses suffered by their kin in the war against Japan, he declared, "never again must our soldiers, sailors and marines be compelled to fight from island to island as they are fighting today."

Continuing, Roosevelt lavishly praised Chiang and Soviet Premier Josef Stalin. Pointing out that he "got on fine" with Premier Stalin, Roosevelt said, "I believe that he is truly the representative of the heart and soul of Russia."

In referring to the people of the Reich, he said, "the United Nations have no intention to enslave the Germans," adding, "we wish them to have the normal chance to develop in peace as peaceful and respectful members of the European peoples," but, "we mean to rid them once and for all of National Socialism and the present militarism."

F.D.R. Pessimistic

By Arrangement with the Asahi (Special to the Nippon Times)

BUENOS AIRES, December 24.—Warning against too much optimism on the anti-Axis side in the face of the great difficulties lying ahead, President Roosevelt in a broadcast from his private residence at Hyde Park today delivered a Christmas address directed to the officers and men of the American forces throughout the world, and to the peoples of all anti-Axis countries, it is reported from New York.

Relating in his address the results of the recent Cairo and Teheran conferences, Roosevelt uttered his own arbitrary views and boasted that a complete agreement of views was reached among the United States, Britain, and the Soviet Union. Discussions, he said, not only touched on military operations, but also referred to the problem of securing permanent peace after the conclusion of the present war.

Concerning the war against Japan, Roosevelt boasted that at the Cairo parley a decision was reached to compress steadily "the iron and steel cordon" around Japan. Nor did he forget to add appropriate complimentary remarks for the Soviet Union and Chungking. In conclusion, the President warned his countrymen against excessive optimism and also spoke against the striking workers and the political agitators of the opposition, and, attempting to kill two birds with one stone, he stressed at the same time the great difficulties lying ahead.

Confirms Appointments

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 24.—Appointment of General Dwight David Eisenhower, Commander-in-Chief of the anti-Axis forces in the Mediterranean theater, as Supreme Commander of the Anglo-American invasion forces, was announced by President Roosevelt in his Christmas eve broadcast.

Roosevelt said that a British general would take over Eisenhower's Mediterranean command while a flash from London said that it had been officially announced that Lieutenant-General Sir Henry Maitland Wilson was appointed Eisenhower's successor.

The United States President also announced that an American, Lieutenant-General Carl Spaatz, had been appointed commander of the United States forces operating in Europe.

In conclusion, Roosevelt said that full agreement on every detail of the planned attack on Western Europe had been agreed upon among himself, Prime Minister Churchill and Premier Josef Stalin.

Smouldering Strikes, Rising Prices Depress Morale of People in U.S.

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 25.—The American people are getting into a depressed state of mind. They are disappointed in the counter-offensive of their leaders who have been talking at the top of their voices, an offensive which has cost America much while it has gained little by it.

Another source of worry to the Americans is the existence of an increased threat of vicious inflation. There is also political unrest. The labor is in a bitter frame of mind. At home and abroad the situation is decidedly unfavorable to America. Under these conditions the Americans are going to meet the third New Year after the outbreak of the war.

The Prensa, an influential Buenos Aires newspaper, carried the following report on the domestic condition in America today:

"The Americans will greet the third year of the war, with mixed feelings about the future of the war situation.

"The lifting up of light control along the Pacific and Atlantic coasts has resulted in a reduction in the tension of the attitude of the Americans toward the war. The step gave some Americans cause to think that the war would be over soon. Other Americans generally see no reason why they should not think that great difficulties are ahead of America.

"Prices are going up sharply in America. The taxes are getting higher and higher. As for the scarcity of commodities and materials, it is growing acuter every day.

"It is estimated by the American Government that 180,000,000 meters of cloth have been saved by the unification of the quality and designs of clothes and by the discarding of parts of clothes, and that 350,000 tons of iron and steel have been made available as the result of the imposition of restrictions on the manufacture of kitchen stoves.

"There is another side to the picture. The Americans have been made to feel more deeply what the war means to them as far as their living goes. The coffee ration was ended in August of this year. But at the same time butter disappeared from the market, and the Americans have to be contented with margarine. There will be larger supplies of cereals and eggs next year, but there is every prospect that there will be less meat. The new zinc one cent coins which have replaced the copper pieces are extremely unpopular with the citizens. There is a shortage of medical service. The scarcity of automobiles is causing great inconvenience to the Americans generally.

"The American Government has decided to lift the restriction on the manufacture of some of the goods of necessity to the people from next year in a move to alleviate the hardships of the people. It is estimated that 2,000,000 pieces of electric irons and 64,000 pieces of electric stoves will be placed on the market. The manufacture of these goods has been prohibited since the outbreak of hostilities.

"It is inflation which is the greatest source of worry to the Americans. The living expenses have gone up 23.5 per cent since January 1941. This is the cause of all sorts of unrest felt by the Americans. The question of inflation is rapidly developing into a political issue."

GERMANY'S MORALE UNSHAKEN BY RAIDS OF ENEMY AIR UNITS

Reich Military Strength and Manpower Reserve Still Ample

DETERMINED TO WIN WAR

Aerial Attacks Fail to Hit Seriously Output of Munitions Industries

Domei

MANCHULI, December 25.—Emphasizing that the morale of the German people remains totally unshaken and that the Reich retains an invincible foothold in the Balkans, Tokutaro Kono, non-regular staff member of the Manchoukuoan Legation in Germany, gave his impressions of fighting Germany aboard the international train bringing him to Harbin en route home.

Coming home with Mr. Kono is Toshitaka Okubo, Japanese Minister to Hungary.

Rumors that the Reich military strength has been depleted or that her manpower resources are on the down-grade were categorically denied by Mr. Kono as enemy propaganda, pure and simple.

Germany and especially the Balkans have been favored with bumper crops this year and the food supply in the country is quite plentiful, Mr. Kono disclosed, adding that, for one thing, beer supply is so abundant that recently he had not seen people standing in queues to get the beverage.

The wanton Anglo-American air raids have not lowered Germany's productive efficiency anywhere to the extent propagandized by the enemy, Mr. Kono declared.

Mr. Kono's impressions were in the following vein:

"As Fuehrer Hitler has said, the current gigantomachy is not merely for victory or defeat, but for life or death. The dictum is fully understood by the German people, who, whether on the field of battle or on the home front, are fighting hard.

"Before my departure for home, I made an inspection tour of the agrarian districts. How hard the farmers are working! In order to feed the whole population of the country, 40 per cent of it must be put to farm work. Actually, however, only 20 per cent of the population are farmers. No wonder they work hard. An idea of their diligence may be gathered from the fact that they take turns for meals.

"Even greater diligence is put in the munitions factories.

"Everywhere in the country one meets with young men belonging to Youth Corps, the Storm Troops or Volunteer Labor Service Corps. Rumors that the German military strength has been depleted or that her manpower resources are on the decline are enemy propaganda.

"The situation in the Ukraine may have had some economic effect, but Germany and especially the Balkans have been favored by bumper crops this year and food supply is quite good. For one thing, beer supply is so abundant that recently I have not seen people standing in lines to buy the beverage. During my trip through the Balkans, I found commodity supplies adequate, and this adds to Germany's innate economic strength.

"The Anglo-American wanton air-raids on Germany have become increasingly intensified of late. But confusion is totally absent and perfect order is maintained. In only eight days after the raid on Berlin on August 23, 1,000,000 of the population of the German capital were dispersed. The people are putting up air defense in dead earnest.

"The civilian air defense in Germany is built around the Air Defense League established in 1933 under the Presidency of Grand Marshal Hermann Goering. With a membership of 23,00,000 the League is carrying on well-organized work.

"The damage done to Germany's heavy industries is not so serious as is generally reported. The Anglo-American air-raids are nothing to be feared seriously. In fact, every air-raid has strengthened my conviction that bombs cannot kill.

"German munitions industries are now ingeniously scattered. Factories equipped with vitally necessary machinery operate in the basement. The loss in machinery by air-raids is fast being replenished by new production. All in all,

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U.S. Interstate Body Upholds Regulation Discriminating Negro

Domei

LISBON, December 24.—In flagrant violation of the rights of American Negroes, the Interstate Commerce Commission ruled today that the segregation of races on railroad trains does not constitute unlawful discrimination. The Commission pointed out that the right of a railroad to maintain rules separating white and Negro passengers has been upheld by court decision. In making this ruling the Commission dismissed the complaint lodged by 18 Negro seamen against an Atlantic coastline railroad. The latest decision marks another setback in the fight of American Negroes to abolish the discriminatory institution known as the "Jim Crow."

PM FLAYS AMERICA FOR BOLIVIAN CRISIS

Revolution Predicted in Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Cuba

Inefficiency of the U.S. Government in the handling of the American policy towards the Latin American nations is blamed as the cause not only of the recent political upheaval in Bolivia but of a political crisis threatening to engulf the whole of Central and South America, says a recent issue of PM, a New York newspaper, according to a special dispatch to the Mainichi from Buenos Aires. The American journal's criticism in gist is as follows:

The impoverishment of the people's livelihood is likely henceforth to give rise to revolutionary disturbances in the various countries of Latin America. Principal causes of uneasiness are the shortage of foodstuffs on account of the war and general economic difficulties owing to the intensification of vicious inflation and to the negligence of the U.S. Government authorities who have failed to come to an understanding with the liberalistic labor elements in those various countries. At present a crisis is also pregnant in Chile, Colombia, Mexico, and Cuba.

Many Arrested

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 25.—The new Government of Bolivia has been eagerly undertaking the renovation of the internal administration and diplomatic structure of the country, and are arresting and deporting important persons who are considered as opposing the present Government, according to reports from La Paz. Two of the former Cabinet members are said to have been already arrested and detained at an undisclosed place.

U.S. Interference Bared

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 25.—The question of recognizing the new Government of Bolivia is now being seriously studied by most of Latin American nations. Although it was reported that Ecuador had recognized the new Bolivian Government headed by Major Villaroel, the Government of Ecuador announced yesterday that the report of her recognition of the new Bolivian Government was premature.

The Argentine Ambassador to Chile conferred with Chilean Foreign Minister Joaquin Fernandez at Santiago on December 23, for more than 40 minutes. In the meantime the Argentine Foreign Minister Alfredo Gilbert yesterday invited the Bolivian, Brazilian and Uruguayan Ambassadors to a conference and discussed the question of recognizing the new Bolivian Government.

Despite all these efforts of the Argentine Government to solve the diplomatic crisis in South America the United States Government is attempting to ignore the new Government of Bolivia. The United States urged Uruguayan Foreign Minister Alberto Guani to call an urgent meeting of the Pan-American Defense Committee at Montevideo yesterday to adopt the following resolution:

"1. All nations of the American Continent shall adopt a joint action in case of the establishment of a new government within the Continent.

"2. Before recognizing a new regime, full investigations must be made as to whether the new government will be able to guarantee the safety of the American continent, and also into the history and

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OPENING CEREMONY OF IMPERIAL DIET IS HELD ON SUNDAY

His Majesty the Emperor Grants Gracious Imperial Rescript

MINISTERS ATTEND

President Matsudaira, Speaker Okada to Proceed to Imperial Palace Today

The opening ceremony of the 84th session of the Imperial Diet was held on Sunday in the chamber of the House of Peers, honored with the presence of His Majesty the Emperor.

A gracious Imperial Rescript was granted to the members of both Houses. Filled with awe and trepidation, they pledged their resolve to discharge their deliberative duties in obedience to the Imperial Will.

Attired in military service uniform, His Imperial Majesty in an informal cortege left the Palace at 10:40 a.m., for the House of Peers. Grand Chamberlain Admiral Saburo Hyakutake was permitted to ride with His Imperial Majesty. Imperial Household Minister Tsuneo Matsudaira, Chief Aide-de-Camp General Shigeru Hasunuma and others close to the Throne followed.

Upon arrival, His Imperial Majesty, led by Count Yorinaga Matsudaira, President of the House of Peers, entered the Imperial resting-room, where He met the Princes of the Blood who had arrived earlier.

His Imperial Majesty then granted an audience to Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo and the Cabinet Ministers, Dr. Yoshimichi Hara and Admiral Kantaro Suzuki, President and Vice-President, respectively, of the Privy Council, the Privy Councilors, Count Yorinaga Matsudaira and Marquis Yukitada Sasaki, President and Vice-President, respectively, of the House of Peers, Tadahiko Okada and Sakusaburo Uchigasaki, Speaker and Vice-Speaker, respectively, of the House of Representatives, and others.

At 11 a.m., His Imperial Majesty entered the chamber of the House of Peers. Prime Minister Tojo proceeded to the Imperial presence and presented the Rescript, which His Imperial Majesty read.

When His Imperial Majesty finished reading the Rescript, President Matsudaira of the House of Peers received it back.

The opening ceremony duly completed, His Imperial Majesty left the House at 11:15 a.m.

The Imperial Rescript opening the 84th session of the Diet follows:

"We hereby conduct the ceremony of the opening of the Imperial Diet and enjoin upon the members of the House of Peers and the House of Representatives:

"Our Forces on the far-off front, in defiance of rigorous cold and blazing heat, are fighting gallantly and displaying their true mettle, while Our subjects on the home front, bearing hardships, are striving for production and thus doing their duty to the State. The ties between Our Empire and the friendly Powers are being further solidified and the grand task of developing East Asia is progressing apace day after day. We are deeply pleased at this.

"The offensive and defensive war has become intensified and the war situation is most serious. The nation, with a united will, shall throw its total strength into smashing the enemy's egregious ambition. We rely upon the loyalty and courage of Our subjects to realize the war objective speedily.

"We have ordered the State Ministers to present to the Imperial Diet the budget for 1944 and the Extraordinary Military Expenditure bill along with other legislative bills. We enjoin upon ye, in obedience to Our will, to discharge the duties of deliberation in a spirit of harmony and cooperation."

Having been granted the Rescript, both Houses drafted their responses, which President Matsudaira of the House of Peers and Speaker Okada of the House of Representatives are scheduled to present to His Imperial Majesty at 11:20 a.m. today in an audience in the Imperial Palace, according to the announcement of the Imperial Household Department on Sunday. The announcement follows:

"Count Yorinaga Matsudaira, President of the House of Peers, and Tadahiko Okada, Speaker of the House of Representatives, at 11:20 a.m. on Monday will be received in audience by His Majesty the Emperor to respond to the Imperial Rescript opening the Imperial Diet."

IRAN REFUTES CLAIM F.D.R. WAS MENACED

Statement on Assassination Attempt Hit; Full Protection Was Provided

Domei

ISTANBUL, December 25.—The statement made by President Roosevelt in a recent press interview that he stayed at the Soviet Embassy during the Teheran Conference and not at the American Legation, because of an attempt to assassinate him, was flatly refuted by the Iranian Government in an announcement issued today, according to Teheran reports.

"During President Roosevelt's stay at Teheran, there was no attempt to assassinate him, nor did the Iranian Government get a protest from America concerning such an attempt," said the announcement. "Therefore, the Iranian Government is unable to understand why Roosevelt spoke of an attempt to assassinate him while he was at Teheran."

Both at Teheran and Cairo, utmost care was taken to protect the anti-Axis leaders attending the conferences. In this connection, the Bourse Egyptienne, an Egyptian newspaper, reported as follows:

"The hotel where the Cairo conference was held is located 12 kilometers outside the city. Several weeks before the opening of the conference, all guests at the hotel were asked to leave, and then the building was surrounded by barbed-wire fences.

"Then, for the protection of those attending the conference, one battalion of troops was stationed there. Moreover, as a precaution against air attacks, 14 anti-aircraft guns were placed nearby. At an airfield in the vicinity of the hotel, 10 companies of fighter plane units were always in readiness.

"The entrance of the hotel was closed and those who were not directly connected with the delegations of the three nations had to present identification cards to enter the hotel. These cards were valid for one day only."

COSSACKS AID REICH IN S. ITALY WARFARE

Harassing Foe in Apennine Sector

Domei

BERLIN, December 25.—Cossack units are fighting side by side with the Germans on the Italian front, according to information emanating from official German quarters.

These Cossack units are said to have fought on the side of the Germans on the Eastern Front and achieved great military results.

At the moment the Cossacks are on guard duty in the Apennine mountain sector, and are harassing the anti-Axis forces by a display of the horsemanship for which they are famous.

CASEY APPOINTMENT HIT

Indian People Indignant at New Bengal Governor

Domei

LISBON, December 25.—The appointment of Richard Casey, an Australian, as the Governor of Bengal, as the last resort to solve the food crisis in that Province, has caused considerable anger of the entire Indian people. Even the Statesman said that it is doubtful whether Casey is properly qualified for the post of the Bengal Governor.

"The appointment of an Australian as the Governor of an Indian Province is an insult on the national honor of Indians, as Australia does not give equal treatment to Indians," declared the Bombay Chronicle.

Paraguay Head Broadcasts

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 25.—President General Higino Morinigo of Paraguay announced the details for his new five-year program in a broadcast on Christmas eve, according to a dispatch from Asuncion. President Morinigo explained that the five-year plan will bring prosperity and improved living-condition to the people, and, at the same time, he asked the people to cooperate with the Government in immediately starting the project.

British Laborites for Russia

Domei

STOCKHOLM, December 25.—Harold Laski, British Labor Party leader, is expected to visit Moscow shortly as head of a British labor mission, according to the Evening Standard, it is reported from London. The dispatch of a British labor mission to the Soviet Union was already decided upon at the meeting of the British Labor Party 18 months ago.

Germany's Morale Unshaken by Raids Of Enemy Air Units

(Continued From Page 1)

Germany's productive capacity has not been lowered anywhere to the extent the enemy claims.

"The German people are invigorated by Japan's successive brilliant war exploits as if they were their own. The Imperial Headquarters' announcements are invariably given prominence on the front page by the German press. They impress the German people deeply. Above all, the daring and devotion of our Wild Eagles is deepening the trust of the German people in Japan.

"Due to the strenuous Anglo-American maneuvers, storm is gathering over the Balkans, but the powerful Reich military might still persists there, and, moreover geographical conditions give added advantage to the mobility of the German military machine in the Balkans. It is least likely that the Balkans will play into Anglo-American intrigue.

"After all, the German people, totally unaffected by nerve warfare, are fighting with all their might for their existence. Refusing to be carried away by sentiment, they, one and all, are showing the utmost perseverence."

FILIPINOS' REORIENTATION WANTED BY P.I. EDUCATOR

More Vigorous Spiritual Leadership Needed in Philippines, Declares Santos

Domei

MANILA, December 24.—Addressing 341 teacher graduates of the Nippongo Normal Institute, Mariano de los Santos, Director of Private Education, declared that the change of the status of the Philippines from a Commonwealth under the protection of a Western nation into an independent republic means the wholesale revision of accepted values, new national direction, spiritual renaissance and a reawakening of racial consciousness.

Decrying the past tendency of the people toward materialism, Santos said that the Filipinos mistook outward forms of substance for ideas. He added, "What the people need today is more vigorous spiritual leadership." He severely criticized the perverted mentality fostered by the past regime which classed Filipinos who were unable to write or speak English or Spanish as "ignorant," while classing a person who was unable to speak his own native language or ashamed to speak it as "educated." He said that the people must be reoriented and reorientalized.

BUILDS BIG PLANE CARRIERS

U.S. Plans to Use Twin-Motored Bombers on New Ships

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 25.—The United States Navy has started the construction of the 45,000-ton aircraft carriers, to be equipped with twin motored bomber planes, according to Washington reports.

One of the two new carriers is being built at the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dock Company, Virginia, while the keel for the other was laid at the New York Navy Yards. Another carrier of the same type will be constructed next year.

U.S.S.R. Postpones Elections

Domei

MOSCOW, December 23.—It was announced by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet that the elections to the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. have been postponed until December 1944. It was also revealed that the powers of the present Supreme Soviet will be extended for another year.

Envoy Okubo Returning

Domei

HSINKING, December 24.—Toshitaka Okubo, Japanese Minister to Hungary, and his suite of seven arrived at Manchuli this afternoon. He and his party will leave there for Harbin tomorrow afternoon en route for home.

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TOKYO WRITERS SET TO AID WAR EFFORT

Will Enter Vital Industries As Members of Labor Service Corps

Literary men, belonging to the Association for Service to the State through Literature, especially novelists and poets, are giving serious thought to relinquishing their profession and taking up positions in which they can share in the great work of increasing and extending the nation's power for prosecuting the War of Greater East Asia.

About 50 of them have already proposed to the Labor Service Corps of the association that places be found for them in industries and factories turning out munitions and materials needed for the prosecution of the war.

The corps, which has been encouraging the members of the Association of Service to the State through Literature to find as much time as possible to make themselves directly helpful to the national war effort, is now in touch with the Association for Service to the State through Industry with a view to having it find work for the members.

The Labor Service Corps, to which all members of the Association for Service to the State through Literature residing in Tokyo Metropolis belong, was brought into existence at the end of last month.

The members of the corps find jobs in war industries for a minimum of two months in a year.

The organization of the corps is like an army. In the active service of the corps are members under 50 years, numbering 522. The first reserve consists of 293 members who have positions in schools and Government offices or are concerned in military affairs. The second reserve is made up of members above 50 years, who number 224.

Kihachi Ozaki, a novelist and poet, is the commander of the battalion formed by the members in the active service of the corps. The battalion has five companies, 15 sections, and 46 sub-sections.

Interviewed by the press, Mr. Inouye, chief of the training section, said that it was good to observe a tendency being developed by the members to relinquish the pen and have a share of the actual work of increasing the nation's fighting power.

"In temperament literary men are not unlike other men," Mr. Inouye said. "They must be understood and sympathized with before one can hope to get results from them. We intend to have as many members as possible take up suitable positions in undertakings directly connected with the effort to prosecute the war."

REITERATES NEUTRALITY

Swedish Prime Minister Makes X'mas Radio Address

Domei

STOCKHOLM, December 25.—Sweden's neutrality was emphasized by Prime Minister Per Albin Hansson, in his Christmas radio address delivered today.

"The people of Sweden should understand that our neutrality is not merely nominal, and they must always stand together to maintain it, without unnecessarily discussing international politics," the Swedish Prime Minister said. "The position of Sweden is sound at present but I cannot guarantee that we can always remain outside the danger zone," he concluded.

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Big Railroad Strike Threatens America As Zero Hour Nears

(Continued From Page 1)

the companies number more than 1,200,000. Among them are the firemen, signalmen, and conductors, who total 120,000. Most of the others are non-operative workers.

The authorities of the White House announced on the night of December 23 that the Government was pushing preparations to take over all the railways as a last resort to prevent a general strike.

COSTA RICA, GUATEMALA ENGAGED IN BITTER FEUD

President Guardia Considering Recalling Minister

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 25.—The conflict caused between Guatemala and Costa Rica by the attack on President Rafael Angel Calderon Guardia and Archbishop Sanaburia of Costa Rica by a Guatemalan newspaper has now reached an anti-climax, that it is even feared that the two countries may sever their diplomatic relations.

The Guatemalan Government refused the attendance of Archbishop Sanaburia at a religious conference to be shortly opened in Guatemala. In retaliation, the Costa Rican Government is considering the recall of its Minister to Guatemala, according to a dispatch received here from San Jose today.

U.S. BARES PART OF LOSSES

32,911 Marines, Coast Guards Lost Since War Began

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 24.—The casualties caused to United States marines and coast guards since the beginning of the present war were announced by the United States Navy Department today, according to Washington reports.

But as usual the announcement gave only a small portion of the total casualities as follows:

Dead, 14,316; wounded, 6,001; unaccounted for, 8,347; taken prisoner, 4,247; total, 32,911.

Uruguay Gets U.S. Corvette

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 25.—One 600-ton corvette was given to Uruguay by the United States under the Lend-Lease Act, the Government of Uruguay announced today, according to Montevideo reports.

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ROOSEVELT'S TALK DAMPENS OPTIMISM

Climaxes Series of Government Warnings Against Smug Complacency

Domei

LISBON, December 25.—President Roosevelt's flowery Christmas speech evoked instantaneous reactions, with observers describing the speech as a climax to the recent series of warnings of administration and congressional officials against the American complacency regarding the current war.

The observers were particularly cynical about Roosevelt's distress about "partisan thinking and talking," pointing out that the President was obviously referring to the forthcoming presidential and congressional elections next year.

In connection with Roosevelt's warning that the increasingly heavier casualties must be expected in the future, the observers recalled that one undisclosed high administration official recently predicted that 50,000 men would be lost in the next 90 days. Further, it was pointed out that one newspaper declared that the "complacency is our worst enemy on the home front. If it is not cured, we may well lose the war."

One report received here from Washington states that such complacency is reflected in the reportedly increased absenteeism from war plants—complacency supposedly being the main reason—while in big businesses, the clamor for relaxed government control and congressional indulgence in partisan politics are resulting in forming a rather confusing home front.

Petain Exhorts Nation

Domei

BERLIN, December 24.—Breaking his long silence, Marshal Philippe Petain French Chief of State, in a broadcast on Christmas eve, urged the people of France to support the Government, according to a report from Vichy. There had been circulated various rumors by anti-Axis propaganda organs concerning the present condition of the Marshal, but his broadcast has shattered all those evil rumors.

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PM Flays America For Bolivian Crisis

(Continued From Page 1)

ability of the principal leaders forming that government."

At the meeting of the Pan-American Defense Committee, the representative of Argentina was absent. The session of the Committee was nothing but an attempt of the United States Government to interfere in the internal affairs of Bolivia.

Bolivia has an economic weak point in that she must export her tin to the United States, and when other governments refuse to recognize her new Government under pressure from the United States, she will be placed in a very difficult economic situation.

In view of this situation, the Foreign Minister of Bolivia instructed Bolivian diplomatic representatives in all other American countries to report to the respective nations the following facts;

"1. The Bolivian Government desires to maintain friendly relations with all nations of the American Continent.

"2. The recent political change is of a democratic nature, and the Bolivian Government will ever remain on the anti-Axis side.

"3. The peace and order in Bolivia is being maintained and the entire people is supporting the new government."

REPUBLICANS BLAST ROOSEVELT'S HOPES

Claim President Is Feverishly Launching Campaign for Fourth Term

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 24.—On the heels of the White House spokesman's revelation that President Roosevelt believes that the term "New Deal" is outmoded and should be discarded in favor of some slogan more reflective of the war effort, the Republicans quickly charged the President with launching a campaign for a fourth term, it is reported from Washington.

Harrison Spangler, Chairman of the Republican National Committee, reportedly caustically inquired whether "a leopard can change its spots." Spangler added "apparently Roosevelt thinks so."

Continuing, the Republican committee chairman said "we have a great sympathy for him (Roosevelt) in his desire to forget the record of this administration during the past 11 years. It is quite a political burden for him to carry as he and his "Palace guards" are feverishly conducting a campaign for four more years in office.

The cause of Spangler's comments was the statement by White House Secretary Stephen Early, who said that the New Deal was a phrase born in the days of the 1932 emergency. Early added in his statement, that "this is now 1943."

MRS. GANDHI CRITICALLY ILL

Domei

ISTANBUL, December 24.—The condition of Mrs. Mohandas Gandhi, imprisoned and sick wife of the Mahatma, has grown worse and is critical, and the British authorities are apparently in a dilemma as to what steps to take, according to a broadcast from India. Due to the critical condition of Mrs. Gandhi a special conference was held today by the authorities to discuss whether or not she should be released. After conferring, it was decided that it would be better to place her near her husband. It was also decided that the Mahatma would absolutely never be released during wartime, it is said.

Casey Named Bengal Chief

Domei

LISBON, December 24.—The British Government today announced the appointment of Richard G. Casey, Middle East Minister of British War Cabinet, as Governor of Bengal Province of India.

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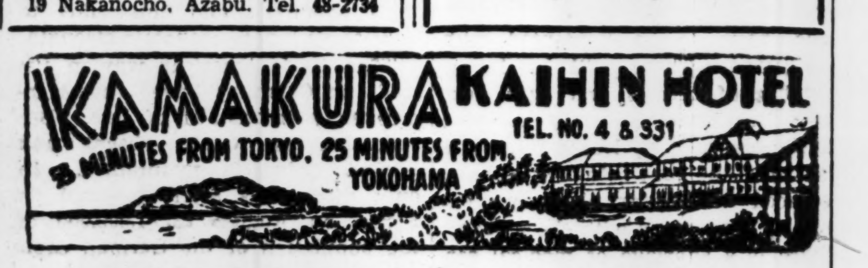

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TOKYO PAPERS LAUD GILBERT DEFENDERS

Voice Profound Admiration; Exhort Nation to Redouble War Efforts

The editorial columns of the Tokyo papers in the week ending December 22 were practically devoted to the latest development of the war situation in the Southern Pacific in connection with the most heroic deaths of the Imperial Naval Landing Party members on Tarawa and Makin islands. The next issue which attracted the attention of the vernaculars, was the unlawful sinking of the Japanese hospital ship Buenos Aires Maru by the American air force. The question of racial equality, the recent movements of the National Government of China and those of the Chungking regime and the opinions of General Jan. Christian Smuts, Prime Minister of the Union of South Africa, drew the attention of several papers here.

In connection with the most heroic deaths of the Imperial Naval Landing Party members on Tarawa and Makin islands, all papers in Tokyo, while paying their highest admiration to the heroes, urged that the 100,000,000 people of Japan should redouble their efforts to beat the enemy. It is remarkable that none of these papers, in editorializing the desperate battle on Tarawa and Makin, were excited in any degree. They discussed the situation in the Southern Pacific in the most solemn manner and expressed their heartfelt thanks and most profound admiration to the spirits of the Imperial Naval Garrison members.

Concerning the landing of enemy troops on New Britain Island, the Asahi in warning the Japanese people about the obstinate and desperate attitude of the American forces, declared, "it is obvious that the enemy is resolved to ignore the tremendous losses inflicted on it." The Mainichi said, "the enemy is obstinately resolved to invade those areas." The Yomiuri-Hochi, in the meantime, pointed out the strategic failure of American tactics, it said, "the arrogant enemy has now departed from the right path of strategy." The Tokyo Shimbun and the Nippon Sangyo Keizai in stressing the important development of the war situation, said, "the war situation is now showing an important development," and "we must watch the development of the war situation in view of the strategic importance of the places where the enemy has landed its troops." All papers urged, in conclusion, the necessity to effect a rapid increase of our fighting strength in order to frustrate the enemy's counter-offensive.'

Relative to the general situation, the Yomiuri-Hochi, in an editorial entitled "Racial Equality," pointed out the fact that Japan was the only great nation which had been fighting for the expiration of the idea of racial discrimination, and declared that Japan was in a position to obtain the cooperation of all peoples in the world, except the Anglo-Americans, and that Japan should obtain the collaboration of all those nations in prosecuting the present war. Meanwhile, the Tokyo Shimbun, in an editorial entitled "The present condition of East Asia, and the Pro-Asiatic aspirations of All Nations of Western Asia," pointed out the fact that, Western Asia was watching with envy the unification of all nations in East Asia.

China also attracted the attention of the vernaculars in Tokyo during the past week. The Yomiuri-Hochi, commenting on the political renovation principle decided on by the Nanking Government on December 3, as well as on the political construction policy of the Kuomintang and its policy of fundamental activities established on October 10, said that it was very opportune that the Nanking Government decided on its policy concerning the Kuomintang under such situation as at present.

The Tokyo Shimbun published three editorials during the past week concerning the movements of the Chungking regime. In an editorial entitled "The Miserable Condition of the Chungking Soldiers Under the Command of American Officers," the paper disclosed the cruel manner in which the American officers are commanding Chungking's front-line troops. In another editorial entitled "Chungking Is Shaking," the paper pointed out the noteworthy fact that at the eleventh plenary session of the Central Executive and Supervisory Committees of the Chungking Kuomintang and the National Political Council recently held at Chungking, discussions were centered on the unification of China, rather than on the policy of anti-Japanese resistance. This, said the paper, shows that Chungking was now reconsidering its attitude of anti-Japanese resistance.

In the third editorial entitled "American Air Force in China and Its Role," the Tokyo Shimbun warned the people of Chungking, saying that the American air units in China will do no good to China, and that their existence in China will incur unexpected calamities on the Chinese people.

Britain also attracted the attention of some Tokyo papers. The Tokyo Shimbun, disclosed the malignant intrigue of Britain, saying, "the small nations, as powerless as lambs, will be devoured by the wolf before long; this is what we anticipate from the opinion of Jan Christian Smuts, Prime Minister of the Union of South Africa." Concerning the latest situation of India, the paper said that the situation in India was growing critical due to food shortage and political unrest. The paper pointed out that the increase of Indian troops deserting the frontline forces might be taken for a harbinger of the downfall of British control over India.

The friction between Roosevelt and Congress was taken up by the Mainichi as an object of study in its editorial column. It said that the friction between Roosevelt and Congress over the proposed raise of taxation by $10,500,000,000 grew more serious in the latter half of this year, plainly disclosing the precarious position in which Roosevelt stands at present.

Regarding the second conference of the anti-Axis nations at Cairo, the Tokyo Shimbun denounced the mean intrigue and ill-directed propaganda as resorted to by America and Britain, saying, "the fact that the Anglo-Americans are spreading such false propaganda is proof of their failure in winning over Turkey to their side"

LAUREL SIGNS SECOND BILL

Authorizes President to Effect Changes in Ministries

Domei

MANILA, December 24.—President Jose P. Laurel signed a bill passed by the National Assembly empowering the Chief Executive to effect changes in the different ministries and bureaus of the Government in order to promote simplicity, efficiency and economy it was learned here today.

The bill is the second signed by the President since the opening of the regular Assembly Session, the first being the creation of the Food Administration. Ten other bills are pending presidential action.

The Past Week in Review

Men on Tarawa, Makin Fight to Last Man

Having inflicted tremendous damage on the enemy forces which had landed about 50,000 men and contributed greatly to the aerial and naval operations of their comrade forces by drawing in a powerful enemy task force, the Imperial Naval Landing Party, of only about 3,000 garrisoned on Tarawa and Makin Islands of the Gilbert group, made their final charge on the enemy on November 25 and died gloriously, it was revealed in a communique issued by the Imperial Headquarters on December 20.

Living up to the tradition of the Imperial Armed Forces, the members of the Japanese Garrison commanded by Rear-Admiral Keiji Shibazaki, furiously attacked the numerically superior enemy landing forces since November 21, never letting up with their fighting despite the persistent bombing and strafing by the enemy planes and bombardment from the enemy warships, the communique added.

The communique also disclosed that about 1,500 Japanese civilian employees, who constantly cooperated with the Garrison Forces on the two islands, also fought valiantly to the last man.

Army Air Forces Blast 40 Enemy Planes

Japanese Army Eagles on the afternoon of December 22 surprise-raided Kunming airfield and blasted 40 enemy planes in aerial combats and in attacks on machines on the ground. Of this total, 26 fighter planes were shot down among about 40 planes which offered resistance, and six large-sized planes and eight small-sized planes were damaged and set ablaze.

Naval Air Units Blast Foe Positions at Merkus

Imperial Naval Air Units at dawn on December 22 bombed the enemy's bases and supply dumps in and around Cape Merkus, New Britain Island, causing a big explosion is one place, and fires in 11 other places, a communique issued by the Imperial Headquarters on December 23 revealed.

According to another communique, one large enemy cruiser and more than 70 transports and large landing vessels were sunk or destroyed by Imperial Naval Air Units in attacks on December 15, 16 and 17 on hostile convoys off Cape Merkus. Sunk were five transports, five large landing vessels and more than 50 other landing craft. The large cruiser was heavily damaged and is believed to have sunk.

Conscription Extended to 19-Year Old Youths

Lowering of the military conscription age by one year to 19 for all males in Japan Proper was announced by the Board of Information on December 24.

The communique said:

"In keeping with the various prevailing circumstances, the military conscription age for 1944 has been decided to be lowered by one year."

The Government thus has arranged to have all the male youths of the land at the age of 19, full, receive examination for military service along with those of 20, full.

The Government had already abolished the system for deferring the conscription of men from the Daini Kokumin Hei List, extended the Daini Kokumin Hei Service to the age of 45, suspended the system for postponing the conscription of students, enforced a conscription system for Chosen and begun preparations for doing the same for Taiwan.

With the war now entering a decisive stage, it has been decided that a further revision should be made in the Military Service Law in order to assure an epochal increase in the fighting strength of the nation through the infusion of vigorous youths into the fighting services.

Gubernatorial Session Opens in Tokyo

The conference of prefectural governors was opened on December 22 at the Prime Minister's official residence.

With the opening of the conference, Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo urged the Prefectural Governors to exert even greater efforts toward the increase of aircraft production, declaring "whether or not we can send aircraft in adequate quantities to the front will decide the war situation and indeed, victory or defeat."

The enemy leaders are frantic, the Prime Minister said, and are desperately resorting to large-scale counter-offensives because they realize that Japan's fighting strength is steadily being augmented through the solid unity of the nations of Greater East Asia and through the turning of the abundant resources in Greater East Asia into war materials, in contrast to growing difficulties, material and spiritual, on their side. But the more intensive the enemy's counter-offensive, the stronger is Japan's determination to give them thorough poundings, the Prime Minister added.

Protest Lodged Against U.S. On Sinking of Mercy Ship

The Japanese Government has lodged a strong protest with the Government of the United States regarding the criminal sinking by an American Consolidate B-24 plane of the Japanese hospital ship, Buenos Aires Maru, it was announced by the Foreign Office on December 20. The protest, it was further revealed, was delivered through the good offices of the Spanish Government.

The hospital ship, Buenos-Aires Maru, it is recalled, was sunk on November 27, in a heinous attack perpetrated upon it by a Consolidated B-24 plane at a point about 200 miles northwest of Kavieng, New Ireland, in the South Pacific. At that time the hospital ship was carrying more than 1,000 patients, 50 nurses, 103 members of the medical corps, and others. The hospital ship, of 15,000 tons, went down in the unlawful assault and 174 persons were killed or are still unaccounted for.

In the protest, the Japanese Government described the illegal attack and sinking in detail, clearly indicating how such attacks violated international pacts and humanity, and demanded that the American Government rectify its actions.

Aoki and Direk Stress Close Nippon-Thai Ties

In commemoration of the second anniversary of the conclusion of the Offensive and Defensive Alliance between Japan and Thailand, Greater East Asiatic Affairs Minister Kazuo Aoki, in an exchange broadcast with Thai Foreign Minister Direk Jaiyanama on December 21, declared that the Alliance is a great propelling force for the building up of Greater East Asia. Mr. Aoki paid high tribute to the people of Thailand who, against innumerable odds, are carrying out their important role in the prosecution of the campaign to liberate East Asia.

Meanwhile, Thai Foreign Minister Direk Jaiyanama reiterated Thailand's immutable determination to stand on a common front with Japan and fight the war to its successful consummation. The Thai Foreign Minister declared that the Joint Declaration adopted at the recent Assembly of Greater East Asiatic Nations linked for the first time the various nations of Greater East Asia under the principles of respect for each other's independence, culture and customs, and reciprocal economic aid, thereby strengthening more than ever their faith of absolute victory in the construction of Greater East Asia and the war.

Bolivians Oust Anti-Axis Gov't

A dispatch from La Paz reports that the pro-anti-Axis Government of President Enrique Penarant was overthrown on December 20 in a coup d'etat by leaders of the national revolutionary movement.

On the same day, the new Bolivian President Major Alberto Villaroel, and members of his new Cabinet were inducted into office. The new Government announced that Enrique Penaranda, who had been deposed in the coup d'etat, would be exiled to Chile under the protection of the Chilean Embassy.

Meanwhile, Sadao Iguchi, Spokesman of the Board of Information, at a press conference held on December 22, declared that the Bolivian coup d'etat shows clearly how the American Good Neighbor Policy is working in South America. The Bolivian upheaval is the answer of patriotic Bolivians to the action of their leaders, who allowed the nation to be exploited and oppressed by aggressive America, he stated.

Japanese Way of Thinking

(Continued From Page 4)

is but trite to say at this time of day that the language of a people is the expression of their soul, which, if rendered into its imagined equivalent in the language of another people will be at the best but the shadow of the original from which you may indeed guess at the true meaning, but not be able to grasp it with sure grip.

One characteristic of Japanese language arising from the idea of Koto Dama is a kind of euphemism consciously or unconsciously employed in the statement even of plain fact especially in relation to persons held in high esteem or affection. The same thing is often not expressed by the same word, when it is related to prince and to pauper. Flies and mosquitoes—even dogs and cats—may simply "die," or "perish" but when speaking of the death of human beings we do not like to let them "die" with the same word because it will remind us of the same sad eventuality which awaits the best beloved of our kind. We prefer their "passing," "sleeping," "going," "hiding," "entering nirvana" (in case of Buddhists), "becoming deity" (Shintoists). When in English it is said that "the soul of a man winged its way to heaven," it is not necessarily meant that the man has actually taken wings and flown to the heavens.

This euphemistic principle applies to all unfortunate eventualities either in history or in actual life. In our history as in that of other countries there have been cases where august personages of high blood have suffered tragic fates or themselves committed unseemly deeds of cruelty or treachery, but these stories are told in a "becoming manner," that is, in a manner befitting their stations in life or in consonance with the esteem in which we are expected to hold them. The same rule is unconsciously observed in every religion throughout history; the heretical unbeliever or barbarian "goes to hell," while the good believer in the orthodox faith "goes to heaven," when they "die," though the fundamental act of "dying" in both cases is the same. Our history, no less than our literature and poetry, should be read in the spirit of the peculiar genius of our language, and then will become illuminatingly clear, or dazzlingly bright the Japanese word or soul.

Who will deny that word is a magic thing? Where does it come save from the mind or soul of man? How then is it made there in the soul unless you derive it from the deities dwelling within or outside your soul? Whoever wishing to utter good words must, therefore, be inspired by a good soul within or without. To have wicked or hypocritical designs at heart and yet to utter auspicious sentences is just what cannot be done. Indeed words of smooth sound and pretentious length may be improvised, but they have a tone, a flavor, an odor which will betray.

Have you heard a good Norito read by a Shinto priest, beautiful words beautifully spoken—words pleasing to the ears of the gods? You will not wonder that such words will have a magic effect in their own virtue. I have somewhere read that English is the best language in which to speak to the servant, high Dutch is fit for talking to the horse, Italian one in which to make love, and so on; and in a similar vein we might say that the words of Japan, those anciently spoken and understood—in which Norito is written—is the language best adapted to speaking to the deities. So the famous words of John the Apostle are to the Japanese an almost commonplace of everyday knowledge, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God"; for that is exactly what is meant by the simple phrase "Koto Dama," one of the central thoughts of primordial Japan.

(End

ECONOMIC STABILITY BROUGHT BACK TO P.I.

New Undertakings Launched in Islands Show Excellent Results

Restoration to the normal order of the distorted economy of the Philippines was the basic task of economic reorganization conducted by the Japanese Military Administration for the past two years. By the restoration to normal order is meant the replacement of the industrial system aiming at the well-balanced production of raw materials.

It is true that the Philippines was an objective of exploitation by Spain. Under the Spanish regime, however, the Filipinos were able to obtain enough food and enough clothing material for their own consumption. As for rice, there were days when the surplus was exported to China.

After the invasion of the American regime in the country, however, the Filipinos were ordered to concentrate their labor on the production of sugar, copra and other raw materials needed by the Americans. No encouragement was given for the production of rice, with the inevitable result that the production soon fell short of the demand, coupled partly by the increase in population. The Filipinos were soon obliged to import substantial quantities of rice from other countries. But, as long as the Filipinos were able to obtain canned goods, wheat, cotton goods and other daily necessities from America in exchange for sugar and copra produced in their country, things went rather smoothly with the Philippines. After the enactment of the Independence Act, which laid a substantial restriction on the export of suger and copra from the Philippines to the United States, the production turn-over began to fall off gradually, finally resulting in unfavorable trade balances. In the days just before the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, the Philippines was on the verge of bankruptcy.

With the military operations in the Philippines over in about six months after the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, the construction of the Philippines on a regular economic basis was started in the summer of 1942, side by side with the mopping-up operations against the remnants of the enemy force in different parts of that country.

In the first stage of construction, the efforts of all were concentrated on the restoration of the prewar-time equipment, including the repair of the communications system, increase in the production of food, resumption of activities by all factories. With the restoration of the equipment of prewar days having been nearly completed by the end of 1942, the year 1943 was spent in effecting the adjustment between the old and the new economic system.

Of course, in the year 1942, important measures were started for the reorganization of the economic system of the country. Various measures to restore the economy of the Philippines to normal order including the readjustment of the sugar and copra industry, construction of factories, use of existing fatories for new purposes, growing of cotton in old sugar plantations, etc. In short, all measures to readjust the farming industry of the Philippines with a view to securing the economic independence of the country were executed in the latter half of 1942. The first year program for cotton cultivation, however, was in a stage of experimentation and practical results were yet to be achieved.

The first ten months of 1943 were allotted exclusively for the attainment of economic independence for the Philippines, which earned complete national independence on October 14.

In order to attain economic self-sufficiency, the Filipinos had to exert great efforts to increase the production of foodstuffs and daily commodities of importance. For the purpose in view, the Japanese Military Administrative authorities in March last established a five-year food production increase program, ending in 1947.

The five-year program attached greatest importance to the production of rice and Indian maize as staple foodstuffs, and the secondary importance to the production of cassava, sweet potatoes and beans as supplementary foodstuffs. This program was carried out throughout the country under the direct guidance of the Philippine Executive Commission which was entrusted with all duties for the development of the food production increase movements. The Commission exercised great efforts for the utilization of idle land, selection of seeds, improvement of farming technique, encouragement of fertilization and careful husbandry. Up to the present, many regions in the country have nearly attained the purpose in view, producing about 80 per cent of the food required, besides supplying Manila citizens with the minimum quantity of food required for their subsistance. The Philippine Executive Commission also has set about the execution of the programs to augment the supply of vegetables and live-stock. These industries have a bright future.

For the purpose of increasing the supply of all daily commodities of importance, the authorities took necessary measures to reopen all provision factories, spinning mills, coconut oil factories, soap factories, paper mills, and match works last year. These works and mills are now under operation at the hands of Japanese manufacturers, who are making great efforts for the rationalization of management and the improvement of the technique of production. These newly manufactured products are rationed to the consumers at large in combination with the goods in stock through the Daily Necessities Production Union.

In order to secure self-sufficiency in all products of the light industries, the authorities concerned have decided to import the equipment of the light industries in Japan Proper. Up to the present, a great number of spindles have been imported from Japan, while the equipment of paper mills, tobacco plants caustic soda works, fertilizer works, electric bulb works, iron rolling works, etc., are being imported from Japan one after another. By means of these factory equipment, the authorities plan to establish many light industries works in the Philippine Islands. The Government of the new Republic of the Philippines will take every possible measure to develop all light industries in the country. Meanwhile, domestic industries in the country will also receive powerful support and encouragement from the government.

The economic self-sufficiency of the Philippines, of course, cannot be realized through the attainment of self-sufficiency in food and other daily necessities alone. For, the Philippines has now established itself as an independent nation in Greater East Asia. Its perfect independence is maintainable only on the basis of political and economic collaboration between the new Republic and all other countries in Greater East Asia. The Philippines, therefore, is required to adjust its system of production in keeping with the development of the economic condition of all regions in Greater East Asia. In view of such a necessity, the Japanese military administration took various necessary measures. In the first place, the sugar industry, which occupied the most important position in all the export industries of that country is now producing alcohol and buthanol. With the exception of a very small portion of the sugar production equipment, which is absolutely necessary for the production of sugar required for domestic consumption, the equipment of all sugar production companies in the Islands has been harnessed for the production of liquid fuels. The surplus sugar plantations are being converted into cotton fields in order to increase the supply of clothing material. Between the cotton growing seasons, these cotton fields are used for the cultivation of other products. By the measures taken up to the present, the Philippines has been transformed into a producing center of cotton, alcohol and various kinds of foodstuffs, in addition to sugar. The copra industry of the country is showing a rapid development; the production of cooking oil, lubricants, and a substitute heavy oil from copra is rapidly expanding.

A substantial quantity of Manila hemp is being exported to various countries in Greater East Asia in the form of rope, while a great deal there is being used in the country for clothing material and as a raw material of paper.

A noteworthy change has also been effected in the leaf tobacco growing industry. The black leaf variety has been replaced by the yellow leaf variety for export and home consumption. The development of underground wealth is being pushed on more actively than in the past. The production of some of them is now three times as large as they was under the old regime. This will produce a far reaching effect in strengthening the defense of not only Japan, but also of all regions in Greater East Asia. The metallic industry, mechanical industry, and the shipbuilding industry in the Philippines are decidedly more active than they were under the American regime. The development of these industries wlll consdrably facilitate the completion of the communication systems of the Philippines which is destined to become Japan's advance bulwark.

The Philippines, as a new country in Greater East Asia, is taking huge steps forward under the guidance of Jose P. Laurel, President of the Republic of the Philippines.

The economic policy of President Laurel is aimed at the establishment of an unshakable system to secure the self-sufficiency for the Filipinos, while his national policy is concentrated on the rebirth and healthy development of the Philippines as a new Oriental country. The new government is exercising strenuous efforts to carry out the economic and other measures started by the Japanese military administration in order to attain economic self-sufficiency for the country. The Planning Board of the new government is doing its best to produce the required quantities of all sorts of provisions, daily commodities, and fuels that are essential for the completion of the structure for the defense of Greater East Asia.

The Japanese military administration for these 22 months has completed the national foundation of the Philippines, which as a new nation of Asia is now ready to prosecute its duties in the war against the Anglo-Americans.

The growth of the Philippines is at once the growth of Greater East Asia. And her attainment of self-sufficiency is tantamount to the construction of a strong economic foundation for Greater East Asia.

DECOUX HOLDS DISCUSSION ON ANTI-RAID MEASURES

Confers With His Chief of Staff And Resident Superior of Tongking

Domei

HANOI, December 24.—Vice-Admiral Jean Decoux, Governor-General of French Indo-China, altered his plans to stay in Southern French Indo-China and returned here yesterday.

It was learned that he conferred with the Chief of General Staff of the French Indo-China Army and with Jean Maurice Erwin, Resident Superior of Tongking, who returned here after an inspection trip through Langson and Dongdang, both of which are situated on the China-F.I.C. border The Governor-General also heard reports on the air raids and relief measures undertaken.

In the evening he held a discussion on anti-air raid measures with Mr. Erwin and Louis Gabriel Chauvat, Director of Political Affairs Bureau, as well as other officials.

American Tragedies

(Continued From Page 4)

can, the present writer regards the following quotation from Professor Crocker's Japanese Population Problem, published in 1931, as a fitting contribution on the present subject:

"In reflecting over the international implications of Japan's population problem, as in reflecting over any other great international issue today, we are brought to realize once more the paramount need of putting an end to the state of nature that still characterizes so wide a domain of foreign relationships, and of erecting peace-providing machinery that can determine—and enforce—a settlement of the disputes that arise and always will arise so long as human beings or their Governments have dealings one with the other. As things are at the present it is not foolish to speculate on a world two or three decades hence perplexed and menaced by an alliance between Japan and Italy and Germany and ex-enemy group. Italian foreign policy in Central and Eastern Europe in recent years is of high significance. The Nationalist parties in Germany, as we know from the German press, would welcome a rapprochement with Italy. What is to prevent an extension to Japan? Japan, Germany, Italy, all have claims on International Society. In the future their claims will become more pressing. If there be no legal means in existence for satisfying the claims, necessity may force these Powers to attempt illegal means. It is a prospect to avoid which will be worth every effort: utility rather than justice demands it."

(End)

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Office: ....1, 1-chome, Uchisaiwai-cho, Kojimachi-ku, Tokyo

Nippon Times

Published by The Nippon Times, Ltd.
TOSHI GO, President and Editor

TOKYO OFFICE:
1. Itchome, Uchisaiwai-cho, Kojimachi-ku. Central P.O. Box 144, 352, 358.
Telephone: Ginza (57) 303, 404, 5857, 5858, 5859, 7063.
Telegraphic Address: "Times Tokyoyubin."
Furikae No. Tokyo 64848.

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
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TOKYO, MONDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1943

The Growing Importance of the China Front

The United States seems to have changed its mind about the potency of its island-hopping strategy. Apparently the staggering losses the Americans have suffered recently in the South Pacific as a result of this ineffectual strategy have made the American leaders chary of this theater of the war and are compelling them to regard with greater importance the possibilities of the China front.

The United States has, for instance, for some time past, been doing its utmost to strengthen its air force at Chungking and to impose its domination over the Chungking air units. It may be recalled that during last May, American flyers cooperated with the ground forces of the Chungking army in operations against the Japanese, a totally new departure on the continental front. Moreover, in October, the United States Air Corps in China, under the command of Brigadier-General Claire Chennault, was enlarged with the merger of the Chungking air units under its wings. Latest information available here indicates that the United States is looking forward to expanding considerably the size of this reorganized air corps.

This shifting by the enemy from one strategy to another is one of the strongest proofs of the invulnerability of Japan's defenses. The Americans are only inviting disaster for themselves by coming out full force on the Chinese mainland for here, too, the Japanese are too deeply entrenched, politically and militarily, to be shaken by any attack.

In the two years of the War of Greater East Asia, the Asiatic continent has been transformed into an iron-girded fortress. From strategic vantage points which she has gained, Japan is in a position to strike both Ninghsia and Lanchou in the north and thus cut off Chiang's Northwestern Route and similarly to make a thrust toward Szechuan Province in the south. North China has been converted into a veritable commissariat from which Japanese troops can, at will, through their domination of the Yellow River and the Kwanhai Railways, reach out toward Sian and drive a broad wedge into the very heart of anti-Japanese territory.

In Central China, Japan has secured a firm grip over the lower belt of the Yangtze River and, with her forces poised to advance up the river, the anti-Japanese bases at Szechuan and Chungking constantly stand in imminent peril of destruction. Furthermore, a tight cordon has been drawn around the coasts of South China while Southwestern China is left wide open for attack, with Liangking and the Burma-China border in Japanese hands. A sweeping arc thus stretches down from Mengchiang in the north to the frontiers of Yunnan Province in the south, catching Chungking within its broad frame.

Side by side with these military achievements, Japan's position has also been strengthened by the political achievements of the National Government of China. Immediately after inaugurating her new China policy, Japan moreover took bold surgical measures to restore the latent vigor of China by returning her concessions and abolishing extraterritoriality. To top it all, she concluded an epoch-making Treaty of Alliance with the National Government of China on October 30.

These developments, both in the military and political fields, have struck at the very foundations of the Chungking regime. Its army of about 300 divisions, numbering 2,500,000 men in addition to about 200,000 affiliated Communist troops, is beginning to show signs of deterioration and decay. Thousands of its soldiers are deserting to the Nanking side. Results of the past year's engagements with the Chungking forces of nearly 3,000,000, in engagements which numbered as many as fifty a day, showed increasing numbers of war prisoners and men who voluntarily surrendered although the casualties have decreased. The men are poorly equipped, their weapons are rusty and out-moded. Their spirit is flagging and discipline low. The prowess of the Japanese Forces has chilled their fighting spirit.

The advance of the American forces under these circumstances can hardly alter the inevitable fate of the Chungking regime or present any prospects of success for the enemy's projected drive against Japan. The Japanese Forces, spread widely over the Chinese mainland, are ready to thrust back the enemy's contemplated counter-offensive on the Chinese mainland, as elsewhere, and thus crush America's dishonorable imperialistic ambitions. On the continent as in the Pacific, the position of Japan remains unassailable.

Bare Mountains and a Stream

One year in autumn toward the end of October I was sitting on a stone by the bank of the Kanomata River, a tributary of the Hoki River at Shiobara. The wind had been strong the previous night, and the leaves having been shaken from the trees, the river bed was almost red with fallen leaves. Both to the right and left, lofty yet slender peaks rose up against the blue sky, and these peaks made one fancy that there were rivers flowing in the sky too.

It being in the latter part of autumn, the stream was thin and almost dried up and was trickling down the very bottom of the river bed. The river bed having gradually descended, winding along the valley between the peaks, the stream could be seen even from a distance. Far below the stream there rose a lofty peak, into which, looking from far off, it seemed as if the stream had been sucked up; and again as if the peak had been cherishing the stream in its bosom, saying: "Stay here, what use in going out to the village? Stay, stay!"

But the stream would go murmuring, washing pebbles and forcing its way through the stockade of autumn leaves as it ran.

Sitting on a stone and listening to the murmuring of the stream, I could hardly imagine anything to equal its note. Is it the murmuring voice of pines, or the mysterious note of the koto? My soul seemed to wander far, far away, following the stream wherever it went.

Ah, the sound of the stream is still heard, though faintly.

Even now, whenever I awake from a dream at midnight and feel serenity in heart, I am apt to hear this sound of the stream far, far away. (From Tokutomi Roka's "Nature and Man.")

The Moon and Insects

I wonder if there is any people who have a more retentive, collective memory than the Japanese? This is the more surprising when we consider that the race is so thoroughly mixed that the things most tenaciously remembered by the various component ethnical groups are likely to have cancelled their distinctive marks. Among the things remembered most vividly are the moon and the hum of insects. It is possible that these have been constantly impressed upon our minds by literary allusions. Even then it is a remarkable fact that the most illiterate Japanese have ears sensitively attuned to the hum of insects and eyes peculiarly susceptible to lunar light. (From Dr. Inazo Nitobe's "Editorial Jottings.")

Happiness

As to what the world does and the way in which people are happy now, I know not whether such happiness be real happiness or not. The happiness of ordinary persons seems to me to consist in slavishly following the majority, as if they could not help it. Yet they all say they are happy. But I cannot say that this is happiness or that it is not happiness. Is there, then, after all, such a thing as happiness? I make true pleasure to consist in inaction, which the world regards as great pain. Thus, it has been said, "Perfect happiness is the absence of happiness."—Selections from the Philosophy of Chuang Tzu.

A Year Ago Today

December 27, 1942

The Japanese Expeditionary Forces in Central China today announced that toward the end of December, the Japanese Forces began a general offensive against the enemy Fifth War Zone in the Tapieh Mountain region in Hopei Province.

* * *

Secretary of Agriculture Claude Wickard of the United States announced that the Government is preparing to enforce a ration system for canned, dried and frozen foodstuff and that as soon as all preparations are ready, the ration system will be enforced.

* * *

Prior to the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, the Shan States in Burma, a treasure house of the world, had been shrouded in a veil of mystery, but with the advance of the Imperial Forces and the establishment of the military administration, the Shan States have emerged as a component of Greater East Asia. They are making great strides in contributing toward the construction of East Asia.

* * *

The breach of official discipline and the corruption of general moral at Fuchow in Fukien Province have reached an exhaustive stage since the Imperial Forces evacuated the city. Since corruption in official circles far exceeded the usual practice, General Ho Ying-chin, War Minister of the Chiang regime, was forced to voice official disapproval in his recent instructions toward Fukien provincial authorities that the sad morale of Chiang's troops at the strategic city of Fuchow has disorganized Fukien's first line of defense.

China's New National Movement

Correction of Racial Shortcomings, Betterment of Daily Life Are Principal Aims—Training Of Youth Stressed

By KAICHI HONGO
(From the Keikoku)

Part I

"War means the general inspection of a people—the general inspection of their spiritual power." So runs the opening sentence of the preamble to the Principles of the New National Movement which were drafted by President Wang himself. The preamble continues:

"During the four and half years of our distressing environment prior to the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, the Chinese people displayed their good as well as weak points to the fullest extent. While they should assiduously cultivate their good points, they should also sternly rectify their weak ones. The China Affair having led to the War of Greater East Asia, the Chinese should at this juncture rejuvenate their spirit, do away with their old defects, and should be brave enough to recognize their own shortcomings and eradicate them, in order that they may undertake the great mission of ushering in restoration to China and of defending Asia from her enemies."

The principal and immediate task of China in connection with her participation in the present war is to cultivate and maintain her fighting power for the purpose of prosecuting the conflict. For this purpose, the National Government decided to carry out the following: to maintain domestic peace, to increase economic production, and to enliven the spirit of the people. It is clear that, if China's domestic peace is maintained by the efforts of the Chinese themselves, Japan could send her troops in China to wherever they are needed most urgently. This is the first way of cooperating with Japan. China can also assist Japan by supplying goods needed by the latter. But what is equally important for this collaboration with Japan is to cultivate the spiritual power of her own people in order to bring about their spiritual mobilization with the object of prosecuting the war to its successful termination.

Movement of Self-Struggle

Lin Pai-sheng, chief secretary of the committee on the promotion of the new national movement and the head of the Chinese Publicity Ministry, calls this movement a movement of self struggle. With the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, the life of the Chinese people became more distressed than before. In order to increase production under this hardship, the people should carry on a war against their own minds in their everyday life and in their way of living. This self-combat is possible by elevating their war consciousness. In other words, the Chinese people should be taught why they must wage this war. They should know that China's restoration to her ancient glory is possible only by waging this war against the Anglo-American domination and tyranny in Asia. They should know that the only salvation for the one billion souls of East Asia is to win this war.

The new national movement commenced in January, 1942. In the words of President Wang, this movement was started "at the inception of a most important period in centuries when China's most glorious advancement began." President Wang explains the movement as follows in the preamble to the Principles of the movement: "The new national movement has no new underlying principle. It is based on the time-honored Three Popular Doctrines, which is the foundation of the Chinese Republic. We are still unable to realize this doctrine, not because we lack in practical power, but because we lack the spirit of research or spiritual power. The new national movement is intended to correct this defect. It intends to make a study of the effective ways of giving medicine to patients."

Explains Aims

President Wang explains the aims of the Three Popular Doctrines as follows in connection with the new national movement:

First, in order to realize the Popular Racial Doctrine, the Chinese should practice Pan-Asianism. The object of the Racial Doctrine is to liberate China from its position of an American colony. Pan-Asianism is intended to emancipate Asia from the yoke of the Anglo-American nations by the unity of all Asiatic peoples through their common endeavors. It was in November, 1922 that Dr. Sun Yat-sen defined in his speech in Kobe the object of his Pan-Asianism as the abolition of all one-sided treaties of China with the aid of Japan. This was his firm conviction which ran through all of this political aspirations. Now, on January 9 this year, the day on which China joined the War of Greater East Asia, Japan promised to return all concessions to China and to do away with extraterritorial rights. Toward the end of March, Japan returned her concessions to China, and later the French Settlement and the International Settlement both in Shanghai, were also restored to China through the good offices of this country. Of the various extraterritorial rights, that of taxation has already been restored to China by Japan. Thus, the great object of the abolition of unilateral treaties bequeathed by Dr. Sun was at last realized thanks to Japan's assistance.

In the second place, in order to realize the Doctrine of Popular Rights, the system of concentration of democratic rights should be adopted. The object of this second doctrine is to assure freedom to the State. Democracy, which is based on the liberalism of individuals, is a false doctrine and is not the same as the Doctrine of Popular Rights. When a state is based upon the liberalism of individuals, the capitalism of individuals will control economic affairs, and the representatives elected at the polls will be the tools of the capitalists. Nor will the representatives of the proletarian class protect the interests of the whole nation, as they will only further their own class interests. The Doctrine of Popular Rights excludes all such political system; it aims to elect wise representatives who will really respect national interests. In political mechanism, the concentration of power will be avoided and the division of power will be arranged into five parts to be placed, however, under the supervision of a single head. But this concentration of political power in a single leader is to be made by means of a democratic contrivance, so that there will be no room for dictatorship. President Wang is especially opposed to any system of personal dictatorship. He says that if democracy is not based on a system of concentration of rights, it will degenerate and that if the system of concentration of rights is not democratic, it will develop into a personal dictatorship.

Developed to Fullest Extent

In the third place, in order to realize the Doctrine of Popular Life, it is essential that the capital of the State be developed to the fullest extent. The aim of this doctrine is not to create happiness for individuals or classes but for the whole nation, and for this reason capital should be accumulated by the State, individuals being allowed to undertake only minor industries.

In the fourth place, the Chinese people are expected to show a spirit of self-sacrifice in serving their State. In order to realize the Three Popular Doctrines, the people should, above all, invigorate their mental power. Practice and ceaseless research are very important, and for this the spirit of self-sacrifice is indispensable. Individuals should contribute to the welfare and happiness of the State through self-sacrifice.

In the fifth place, the Chinese people should be honest, cheerful in their daily life, do only good excluding anything evil, and enjoy doing all this. They should feel ashamed of evil acts, should share the happiness and privation of national life with their fellow citizens, and should be united in a firm national unity.

In the sixth place, the people should do away with levity in life and observe strict discipline in actions. Discipline should extend from individuals to the whole nation. Science should also be diffused among the people.

In the seventh place, thrift should be exercised strictly, thereby contributing to production expansion as well as to the treasury and economic life of the nation. The great majority of the Chinese are extremely poor and for them the exercise of thrift would be highly difficult. For this reason the expansion of national production is absolutely necessary.

In the eighth place, the life of the public servants should be given protection with a view to eliminating undesirable public employes in as short a period as possible. Livelihood should be assured to soldiers and public servants in order to prevent complaints about difficult living conditions.

The foregoing is a summary of the principles of the new national movement of China. The first conclusion we reach from their perusal is that the movement above all is that of enlightenment. Secondly, it is a movement for the betterment of everyday life. At first it may seem just a simple movement to improve daily life, but a deeper scrutiny will show that it has the far-reaching objective of building the foundation of a new China.

It is noteworthy that President Wang has made such a radical interpretation of the Three Popular Doctrines in the light of the existing world conditions that the substance of the doctrines has become quite different from the old interpretations. Therefore, they may more fittingly be called the New Three Popular Doctrines.

(To Be Concluded)

JAPANESE WAY OF THINKING

'Koto Dama'

By SANTARO
Of the Nippon Times Staff

Part II

At a funeral function some time ago an elderly gentleman of about sixty talking with his friends of a similar age was heard to say, "Now I wonder which of us will be the next man to go." Then recollecting himself, he exclaimed, "What a fool I am! Don't they say it is just the one who asks this silly question that is the first to die?"

I remember this episode because it was Mr. K, the asker of this "silly question" who after all did prove to be the first man of the group to become a Buddha.

Be careful in this land of Koto Dama how you utter an unlucky word or ask an inauspicious question, lest the same unlucky word should return to you in the form of an unlucky event which it stands for. That this idea is widely, almost universally prevalent among the Japanese is apparent to everyone who has made any serious attempt to know Japanese psychology. You never hear a Japanese deliberately utter an unkindly word, unless the urge to do so is imperative. He is unwilling to say even "No!" point blank, as Westerners are ready to say ("Yes sayers" are despised and "No-sayers" respected in America, as we all know); but he will try by soft-spoken and circuitous words, when he has to refuse the proposition he is asked to consider, to intimate the negation somehow. He always takes care unconsciously perhaps to avoid using every term which carries with it the "unlucky" import of "denial," "refusal," "failure," "contradiction," but will try on all occasions, as far as he can, to use happy or auspicious words, agreeable to hear, pleasing to the ears of the deities—because of his belief in Koto Dama that bad words will react badly and good words beneficially on all concerned, utterer and hearer.

Tokyo Slang

We all know that this idea of Koto Dama is at times carried to an extreme, though in the nature of it that is in some measure unavoidable. In their anxiety to shun bad-sounding words, some persons—many of us—will coin strange terms in lieu of established proper nouns with the result that those not initiated in such devices do not understand what they are talking about. To cite a few well-known cases, here in Tokyo, the Yedokko, or the son of the soil, disliking the word "suru," or "suri" which means to him "lose," or "fail," will call Surugadai Atari-dai, "atari (to hit or win) being, of course, the happy antithesis of "suru." "Saru gaku cho" of Kanda is spoken of by him as "Ete-gaku cho," for "saru" (run away or divorce) has no good import whereas "ete" (good hand, skilful, etc.), a vulgarism for "saru" (monkey), has a better sound. Many "superstitious" folk hate the word "shi" (death) even in connection with the numerical "four" saying instead "yo or "yon."

Quite understandable, even justifiable, we think, is the imperative decree of etiquette forbidding at the wedding such words as "saru" and "kaeru" (go home), both suggestive of "divorce." Many such examples will occur to illustrate the principle of Koto Dama which we are unconsciously observing in our daily intercourse with one another, notably so among the more conservative or politer classes. There are always some perverse people, however, who strut about the earth with blatant boldness, calling a spade a spade, making no demur at using words in their literal sense and delighting in making "superstitious" folk wriggle and squirm before them; and these are "ultra modern" or a bit "foreignish" and "superior" persons whose existence, does not, however disprove the general rule of the typical Japanese who stands in awe of the souls of the words they speak and hear. Herein consists one source of the great politeness or the fear of offending other people's feelings for which the Japanese are justly famous throughout the world.

Japanese Euphemism

Herein also lies one cause of the difficulty which attends the beginner in the study of Japanese literature, especially ancient literature. Typical Japanese compositions written in a purist style may make hard reading for foreign scholars who are apt to attach to each word its dictionary meaning without interpreting its "soul." Still harder it must be to interpret such words through their translation in another tongue. It

(Continued on Page 3)

American Tragedies

The United States Was Well Aware That Her Intervention Policy Would Ultimately Lead to War

By RETSU KIYOSAWA
(From the Oriental Economist)

Part III

The second reason for the fatal mistake committed by American statesmanship was lack of elasticity in her policy. Three-point demands emerged prominent in the prolonged Japanese-American conversations; namely, Japan's secession from the tripartite alliance, withdrawal of forces from China, and equality of opportunity in commerce. Over and above this was the question of maintenance of the status quo in the Pacific. On this question Japan made clear that she would guarantee the neutrality of the Philippines and formally proposed that she would not dispatch forces to south-eastern Asia and the southern Pacific areas other than French Indo-China. America knew full well that Japan had sent troops to French Indo-China for strategic reasons against the contingency of a war breaking out in the Pacific. Of the three questions mentioned above, the most knotty was that of the tripartite alliance.

America's objection to the tripartite alliance was based upon her fear that she might be attacked from behind in the event of her entering the European war. If America had had no intention of taking up arms against Germany, the tripartite alliance would have constituted no menace to her. If her professed love of peace was not merely vocal but real, then she should have declared her refusal to meddle with European affairs in accordance with the Monroe Doctrine, instead of demanding that Japan should abandon the alliance with Germany and Italy. Then the tripartite alliance would no longer have been a menace to the United States. The present writer may say with confidence that the alliance was, as stated by the then Prime-Minister Konoye and Foreign Minister Matsuoka who were responsible for the treaty, intended to be a means of preventing America from participating in the European turmoil.

U.S. Attitude Unreasonable

Not a few Americans well acquainted with Japanese affairs pointed out the unreasonable features of the American attitude toward Japan. In late September, while the Japanese-American parleys were in progress, the Tokyo correspondent of the New York Herald Tribune sent a special despatch to the effect that the American Embassy in Tokyo was of opinion that the best plan for America would be a endeavor to conclude with Japan a treaty comparable to the tripartite alliance, instead of making the unreasonable and impracticable demand for Japan's break with the Axis Powers. It was explained that the most important point in the pact was the stipulation that it would become applicable in the event of an attack being made against a country which is involved in neither the current war of Europe nor the China Affair. It was then suggested that since the interpretation of the term attack was left to Japan, this loophole should be taken advantage of for the conclusion of a treaty with the Tokyo Government. Newman who signed the dispatch in question is said to have been on terms of close friendship with Ambassador Grew. It would hardly be surprising, therefore, if this American journalist represented the view of the American Ambassador.

Another thing that may be added in this connection is the fact that the American Government, and in special Secretary of State Hull, failed to apprehend the drift of Japanese affairs. An example will suffice. When Prince Konoye sent a personal message to President Roosevelt, proposing an interview with him, it was Hull who put a spoke in the wheel of the Japanese proposal. Hull had already entertained a doubt as to the sincerity of Prince Konoye. It should be observed that the third Konoye Cabinet was brought into being with the very object of continuing parleys with Washington. To make this possible the third Konoye Cabinet left out Matsuoka who held that Hull was opposed to further diplomatic negotiations with Tokyo. It may not be too much to say that Hull and others, who could not understand the real intentions of Prince Konoye, failed to see the situation in its true light and on that account their statesmanship is questionable. Here was a tragedy of American diplomacy.

A third American tragedy was produced by the traditional foreign policy of that country. As already stated, America's policy has been one of intervention based on idealistic principles. Herein lay the danger and weakness of America's foreign policy. As the late Dr. Tachi, Japanese authority on international law, frequently pointed out, the Americans have all along been in the habit of harping upon principles in international relations. The Monroe Doctrine, the freedom of the sea, the open door policy, equality of opportunity, isolationism, etc., were all outcomes of this characteristic persistence on principles. Take, for instance, the attitude assumed by the United States at the time of the Japanese expedition to Siberia in the First World War. America hated Bolshevism like poison and was fully alive to the morass of confusion into which Siberia would be plunged in consequence of the collapse of Czarist Russia. And yet Washington at almost every turn tried to impose restraint on the Japanese forces maintaining peace and order there.

At and after the Versailles Conference America took almost every means in her power to cause Japan to retrocede to China the rights and interests she had taken over from Germany in Shantung Province. But China at the time had no ability to rule the province. At the Versailles Conference China was represented by a delegation composed of equal numbers from the two regimes existent at the time in the north and south of China. Much the same state of confusion prevailed in China at the time of the Washington Conference. And yet, America demanded that Japan should return her Shantung rights and interests to the Chinese Government whose existence was more nominal than real. Secretary of State Hull failed to rise above or depart from the idealism of America's foreign policy when it should have been in the light of the interests at issue.

Was Aware of Consequences

America was aware that her intervention policy would ultimately lead to war, and for that reason the potential war with Japan was ever a nightmare to her people in general. When America occupied the Hawaiian Islands, Japan lodged a protest on the ground that the American action meant an alteration of the status quo. According to Treat's Diplomatic Relations between the United States and Japan (1896-1905), the Senate was of the opinion that America had taken possession of the Hawaiian Islands because she believed Japan had designs upon the islands. It is evident, however, that Japan, who had not protested against the American occupation of the Philippine Islands in the same year, could have no intention of coming into conflict with America on the Hawaii issue. When the Immigration Act was passed by the State of California in April, 1913, the government of the United States held meetings for a few days under the chairmanship of Wilson discussing ways and means of preparing against a possible war with Japan. Who in Japan thought of fighting America at that time? In the Japanese-American Conversations held before the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, to be more precise on July 24, 1941, Ambassador Nomura, in his interview with Roosevelt stated that America had exported oil to Japan to make unnecessary the latter's advance to the south and sowing the seed of trouble. He told this also to the pressmen. He had no compunction, then, to state in public that an economic blockade would mean a war with Japan.

As a protest to Japan's dispatch of a handful of troops to French Indo-China, a territory in East Asia some 6,000 miles distant from the American continent, America discontinued trade with Japan toward the end of July, a step which was, she would have us believe, "appropriate, warranted and necessary." The discontinuance of trade was resorted to, she would also have us believe, "as a warning to Japan and as a measure of self defense." On November 11, 1941, Knox clamored for preparations "on the far side of the Pacific as an extreme measure of self-defense." It was but natural that Japan should also take a measure of self-defense when she saw her "life line" exposed to danger. The logic of the American argument was one of the things we Japanese found most difficult to follow or understand.

Enough has been said to show that Japan was forced into a war by these three American tragedies. The time will come when America will be given a verdict by the tribunal of world opinion.

Finally, let us point out yet another tragedy with which the world is confronted. It is obvious that America's foreign policy and war aims have nothing to contribute to the construction of a new world order. The Americans may speak of their so-called Atlantic Charter, the four-fold freedom of their President and of Hull's four principles. But what such preachment will amount to is only too plain. If such moralizing could solve the problems the world faced, all the world would now be in a heavenly kingdom here on earth in the year of grace 1943. The Americans should have asked themselves how they could translate their precept into practice. Believing as they did, in the New Deal internally, they forgot that they themselves were extreme advocates of the old order. World peace would never be achieved by pushing back the pendulum where it was before it was plunged into confusion and turmoil. Seeing that the tripartite alliance of Japan, Germany and Italy was the main concern of the Ameri-

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Nippon Times
Evening

To Our Goal, With but One Heart and One Object!

Fight It Out to the Last Man Till America and Britain Are Down and Out

No. 16,077 TOKYO, MONDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1943 第三種郵便物認可 昭和十五年十二月二十七日 Price 8 Sen

Press Comments

Monday, December 27
ASAHI—When Quality Counts
TOKYO SHIMBUN—Help India Quickly

When Quality Counts

ASAHI—The enemy's counter-offensive is ever increasing in ferocity and scale. Also, the enemy's fighting spirit, is something that should not be made light of. We must recognize the fact that a rather serious stage in the fighting has arrived. But this, at any rate, was something fully expected ever since the outbreak of war, and there is absolutely no need now to become pessimistic nor to get excited. What is required at the present moment is that the people, without becoming unduly impatient and without losing sight of the prospect of sure victory, should in firm unity rise to an ever higher pitch of courageousness.

It may be said that this war is a war of production. Therefore, it cannot be denied that production capacity is one of the important elements deciding victory or defeat. But it would be strictly inadmissible to fall prev to plain arithmetic calculations and, therefore, to fear the material power of the enemy. Suppose America had a productive capacity ten times greater than ours, this would not mean that this productive capacity would appear in the battlefield ten times stronger than ours. First, owing to his inordinate ambition of dominating the world, the enemy has to split this capacity into all directions. Second, the enemy has to overcome tremendous distances in transportation. That is one of the enemy's weakest spots and greatest bottle necks.

The war results of the several Aerial Battles Off Bougainville Island are considered equal to the blotting out of the whole strength of the Italian Fleet which fell into the enemy's hands as the result of Marshal Pietro Badoglio's treason. And, moreover, the repeated losses suffered by the enemy in the aerial battles near the Gilbert Islands and now at Cape Merkus—heavy losses both in warships and transports—are something which the enemy will not find so easy to recover. And there is no reason for immediate apprehension just because the enemy has succeeded in wresting back the Gilbert Islands and has landed troops on Cape Merkus. Because, for landed troops, it is absolutely necessary to supply foodstuffs and ammunition. It is rather the enemy who has to be excited now. There is indeed another gap for us to take advantage of, and it is truly a matter of great reassurance that our extremely skilful strategy is making the best use of this opportunity and is day by day achieving great results in sinking the enemy's shipping.

We believe beyond doubt that it may be those great losses inflicted upon the enemy's warships and transports engaged in supply duties that may eventually bring about a great turn in the war situation. Moreover, in all the battles the development of our strategies is fully sufficient; and already countless graves for the enemy's warships and transports, no smaller than the grave of Bougainville, have been prepared in the vast expanses of our fighting zone in Greater East Asia.

Of course, it is hardly necessary to stress that the whole nation must devote all its strength to increase production. But it is not permissible to be engrossed only in the sight of mere "material quantity" as advocated by the enemy, and be thus led astray in mistaken conceptions. We must put quality above quantity. The efficiency of the torpedoes of the Imperial Japanese Navy is being admired throughout the world. And if to this is added the skill of our well trained Naval Wild Eagles, then one shot from our forces should be equal to several, nay to more than ten of the enemy's. Does not this fact prove in the most realistic way that the difference in mere quantity can be made up through quality?

When all efforts are being directed at the advance of science and technique, then there will surely be opened a way to destroy the large quantities of the enemy with the use of only small quantities on our side, as is shown by the example of our highly efficient torpedoes. But not this alone—we believe that it is possible that our technicians will produce truly decisive weapons capable of bringing the war to a victorious end.

That our strategies are fully developing; that the tactical employment of our armed strength is skilful, and that we expect greater results from the improved quality of our arms; and not this alone, but if all this is pervaded with our strong spirit which has no equal in the world, we have nothing to fear from the "ma-

(Continued on Col. 3 P. 2)

GOV'T CONTROLS U.S. RAILROADS

Roosevelt Orders Action to Check Worsening Strike

STEEL MEN WALK OUT

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 26.—President Roosevelt ordered the Government today to take over all railways in the United States in an effort to suppress the anticipated general railway strike, reports from Washington disclose.

More Strikers Feared

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 26.—President Roosevelt, today, appealed to the steel workers and companies where steel production had been halted since yesterday, to keep on working and operating under the old contracts, which expired yesterday, until the differences can be adjusted peacefully, according to a dispatch from Hyde Park.

Roosevelt promised the steel workers that any wage increase that they received would be retroactive to the date of expiration of their contracts with the steel companies. At the same time, he told the companies that increases in steel prices will be considered if the wage boosts given to the workers cause undue burden to the operators.

It was estimated that 75,000 workers are taking part in the scattered strikes in the steel industry today. Further walk-outs are feared, the report added.

May Check on Military Vote

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 26.—Senator Joseph C. O'Mahoney announced today that upon the reopening of Congress next year, he would submit a bill for amending the Constitution to authorize the United States Congress to investigate into the exercise of franchise by officers and men of the United States Army and Navy and also to count their votes at the presidential election to be held next year, according to reports from Washington.

A bill concerning the exercise of franchise by officers and men is already before Congress, and it will be one of the important bills to be examined upon reopening of that body.

Oil Shipments Predominate

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 26.—Elmer Davis, Chief of the Office of War Information, made the following report with regard to the recent condition in U.S. wartime marine transportation, as reported from Washington.

"Sixty five per cent of America's shipping, engaged in wartime transportation in foreign waters, are carrying petroleum or petroleum products. The most vital product is 100 octane gasoline for airplane use."

JUGOSLAV PUPPET SETUP CLAIMED NEARING DOOM

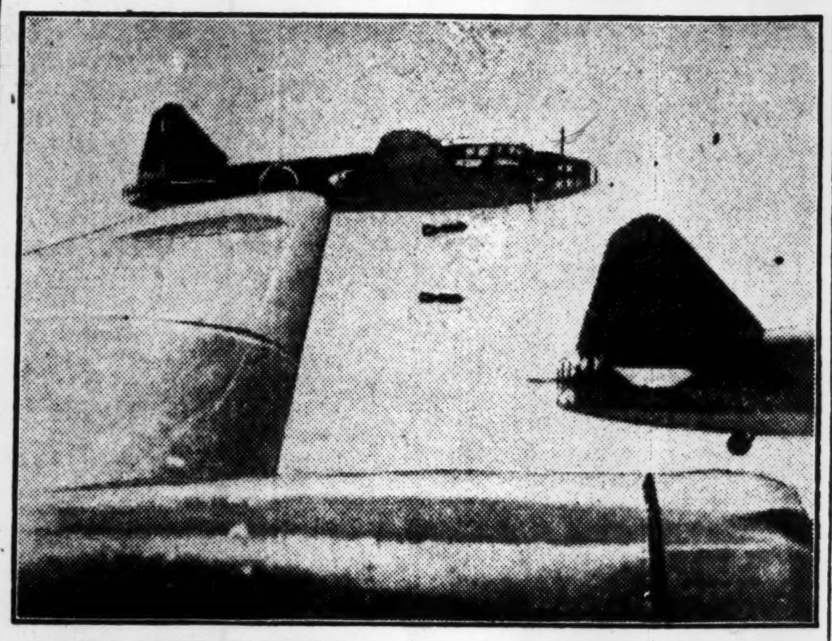
Britain's Recognition Of Reds Is Big Blow

Domei

STOCKHOLM, December 26.—"The end of the puppet Jugoslav Government is now only a matter of time," writes the Daily Telegraph reflecting the cold-hearted attitude of the British Government and its recognition of the Communist government which has come into power in Jugoslavia.

The leader of the new Jugoslav Communist government, General "Tito" Brozovitch, is expected to shortly dispatch a representative to Ankara, according to the Svenska Dagbladet dated December 23. A Jugoslav Minister has already been stationed at Ankara, but as he is an extreme Royalist, "Tito" has found it advisable to send some one of his own party to check him over. The paper went on to say that Britain and America have fully agreed with the action.

Meanwhile, General Pera Zhivkovich, who was appointed Supreme Commander of the Jugoslav Army last August, has yielded to strong pressure and handed in his resignation on December 23, according to a Reuters dispatch from Cairo.



BOMBS OVER CALCUTTA . . . . Imperial Navy Eagles unleash their deadly missiles on the British stronghold in India, claimed to be strongest fortress of the enemy in Asia. (Photo passed by the Navy Ministry)

Lin Throws Another Wordy Bombshell —Says Chinese Are Dazzled by West

Domei

CANTON, December 23.—"The Chinese people are fundamentally unable to a certain degr to resist westernization," declared Lin Yutang, prominent Chinese critic, in a lecture before his own people, thus causing terrific repercussions in Chungking circles, reports reaching here disclose.

Since his return from the United States in the latter part of October, Mr. Lin has delivered speeches in various localities vehemently expressing his personal observations and opinions which have created a great stir among the intelligentsia under Chungking's administration.

Strong repercussions were especially experienced when he delivered the lecture "Eastern and Western Culture and Mental Development" in which he defiantly expressed the opinion that the Chinese could not help being westernized. It is interesting to note, however, that his lecture was enthusiastically received by the youths who are harboring extreme doubts concerning their war of resistance, it was reported here.

Showing great exasperation over Mr. Lin's speech, one Chinese critic expressed the following sentiments:

"We respect Mr. Lin's exhaustive studies concerning the Eastern and Western cultures, but we are absolutely unable to recognize his remarks declaring that the Chinese are a defeated race and that our spirit and mind must undergo a thorough reformation.

"Moreover, his biting comments have stabbed deeply into our society which is undergoing extreme confusion. His opinion that the Chinese could not help becoming westernized, have caused us to hold great doubt of the speaker's conceptions. He has hurled the Chinese people a contemptuous insult.

"We frankly admit our recognition of the progress of Western culture, but we are convinced that there is no reason why we should mimic their ideals and thoughts."

FOE COVERS UP CALCUTTA RAID

Truth Is Demanded By Indian Journal In Fiery Editorial

Domei

RANGOON, December 26.—Demanding true facts concerning the recent devastating raid by Japanese warplanes, the Statesman, an influential Calcutta daily, has declared that people have a right to know the correct details of the Japanese bombing attack over the Indian city.

Reports reaching here stated that the journal took to task the British authorities who released on December 8 only a brief communique—and that from New Delhi. In its editorial of December 10, the paper pointed out the ineffectiveness of the British air force in India and declared that Calcutta expects the true detailed facts concerning the Japanese air attack.

The journal pointedly asked why only two planes had been shot down when the Japanese had attacked in broad daylight the British base at Calcutta which is considered one of the most strongly defended fortresses of Britain in Asia.

Concluding its editorial tirade, the paper demanded that the military authorities there take immediate and appropriate remedial measures and simultaneously asked that detailed facts be released to the citizens.

British Plan Scored

Domei

LISBON, December 26.—The British Government is systematically furthering the trouble between the Hindus and the Moslems, declared President Mikerjee of the Hindi Mahasabba Party, speaking today, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the founding of the party, according to a report from New Delhi.

He declined to accept the plan for the proposed "pakistan" within the Indian Federal States and stressed that settlement of the trouble between the Hindus and the Moslems on the basis of the "pakistan" plan was out of the question.

He pointed out that the only possible solution of the Indian problem was to do away with all religious special rights as well as the privileges of the caste system.

70 Dancers Are Killed In New York Hotel Fire

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 25.—A sudden fire completely razed to the ground Standard Hotel on West 42nd Street, New York City, last evening, according to reports from that city. The building burned for two hours and the Christmas Eve dance merrymakers were thrown into terrible confusion, resulting in the death of 70 persons and injuries to 17.

New York police authorities are investigating the cause of the fire and indications are that a lighted cigarette stub caused the whole affair, which breaks the record for the last 30 years in the number of persons killed and injured in a single fire.

SOVIETS MEET IRON DEFENSE

Germans Stem Winter Attacks; U-Boats Hit Enemy Convoys

ORTONA FIGHT RAGES

Domei

LISBON, December 26.—Winter battles on the Eastern Front continued on Christmas Day with undiminished intensity, according to a communique issued by the German High Command at noon today, reports from Berlin indicated.

The announcement said that the Soviets continued their attacks at the Nikopol bridgehead and at Dniepropetrovsk in the southern sector of the Eastern Front. However, the Red Army failed to make any gains in heavy fighting. The Wehrmacht blasted 71 Soviet tanks, it was disclosed.

In the Zhitomir battle area, the Soviets, employing large forces, carried out furious attacks and their spearheads penetrated German positions. But, their advance was checked by fierce German resistance.

Grim fighting continued in the Vitebsk area in the northern sector, the German communique added.

Meanwhile, London reports claimed the sinking of the German battleship, the Scharnhorst, Sunday evening, by units of the British fleet, under command of Admiral Sir Bruce Fraser, which were escorting a convoy off Cape North.

A German communique, meantime, reported that U-boats in the Atlantic and Mediterranean sank five enemy ships totaling 34,000 tons, besides heavily damaging nine anti-Axis destroyers and escort vessels.

The communique also reported heavy fighting on the South Italian Front, and said that bitter street battles are progressing in Ortona.

A commando unit, consisting of British and French forces, attempted to approach German barbed-wire entanglements on the Channel coast last Friday, but were annihilated, the German announcement concluded.

Nevel Battle Rages

A fresh battle is now raging in the Nevel sector, southwest of Velikie Luki, where the "Baltic First Army" under command of General Bagramiya started an offensive on December 15, says a special dispatch to the Yomiuri-Hochi from Zurich, reviewing the recent developments of the war situation on the Eastern Front.

The Nevel sector, according to the same dispatch, is now the scene of

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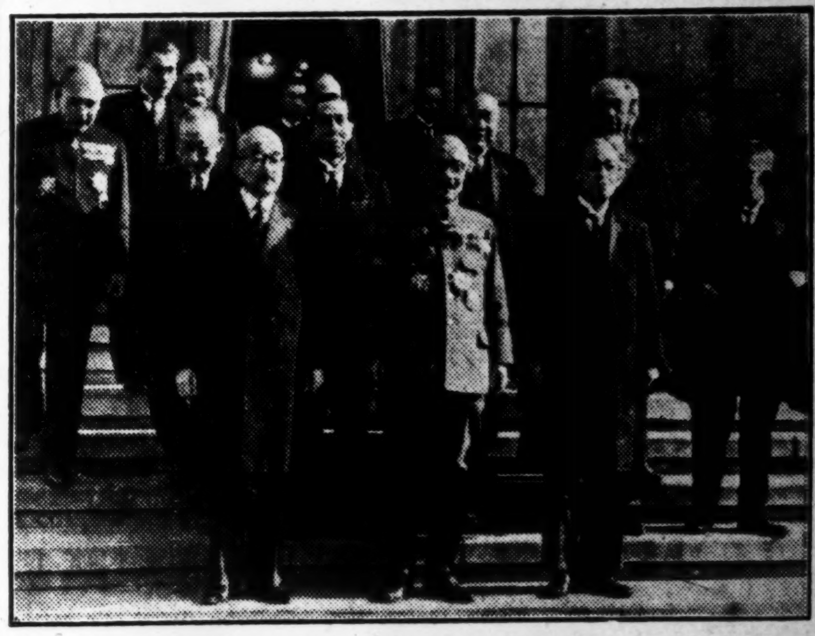

THE TOJO CABINET, backbone of Japan's supreme effort to smash Anglo-American imperialism forever, gathers together for a souvenir photo on the occasion of the convocation of the 84th Diet session, on Sunday.

Seversky Hits Loud-Mouth U.S. Press; Common Sense Nippon Tactics Seen

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 25.—The theory that the Japanese Navy is "cowardly" because it does not answer every challenge of "come out and fight," appearing in speeches and press articles in the United States, was blasted by Major Alexander Seversky, noted American air authority in his article in La Prensa.

Seversky warned that this belief held by the American public is dangerous as it creates unjustified optimism, and shows ignorance regarding modern strategy which is highly affected by air power.

Continuing, he said that those who hurled the challenge still ignorantly believe that the mission of a navy is to come out and seek a decisive battle. The first mistake of such a theory, Seversky added, is that such a battle is no longer decisive, as a defeated fleet would not be exposed as in the past to the enemy fleet, for it would still have aircraft to check the foe.

The second mistake, he said, is to forget that the Japanese now have an empire that is self-sufficient. The Japanese strategy, therefore, can now be defensive, and, with the establishment of a strong air force with land bases, their position becomes inexpugnable, he stressed.

"When we shout 'come out and fight' we are making a mistake, because it is the Japanese themselves who challenge us to approach their aircraft umbrella under which their fleet is prepared to meet us," Seversky said.

Continuing, he pointed out that when Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo had appointed Ginjiro Fujihara as special Minister to boost aircraft production, the Japanese Prime Minister showed that he knew aircraft to be the most important factor in future battles.

"We must realize that the Japanese fleet will never come out of that aircraft umbrella which is supported by land bases," Seversky declared.

"It is possible that the Japanese Naval Forces will make surprise attacks on areas in which United States air power has been reduced, but the main force will not advance without adequate land-based aircraft. This is not cowardly by any means but 'common sense' as indicated by modern strategic conditions," he stressed, adding, "the Japanese Fleet does not abandon its air protection just as the United States fleet does not audaciously enter Japanese waters."

In conclusion, Seversky pointed out that Admiral William Pratt, retired, said, "the Japanese Navy does not fear battle. It will seek battle in its own way and when it is convenient."

Nippon Victories Hearten Axis

Beneficial Effects From Good War News Are Seen by Okubo

That the glorious war results being achieved by the Japanese Forces are greatly encouraging the Axis countries of Europe, was stressed by Toshitaka Okubo, Japanese Minister to Hungary, who arrived in Harbin at 3:35 p.m., Sunday, and registered at the Yamato Hotel, accompanied by Nobuhiko Ushiba, Second Secretary of the Japanese Embassy in Berlin; Tokutaro Kono, of the Manchoukuo Legation in Berlin, and other prominent Japanese.

Interviewed by an Asahi correspondent, Mr. Okubo talked on the latest Balkan situation and the conditions in Germany subjected to indiscriminate bombings at the hands of the Anglo-Americans as follows:

"On November 10, I left Budapest and entered Turkey. I left Ankara on November 30. As regards the Cairo and Teheran parleys, I only heard something on the train and that is all. As for the situation following the parleys I knew virtually nothing.

"Just as I was leaving Budapest, the large war results achieved in the Fourth Battle off Bougainville Island were announced. In Hungary and Bulgaria, the people are thankful for the war achievements and have much anticipations in what Japan is going to do hereafter. Our large war results are giving exceedingly great effects on these Axis camps. The Hungarian people have a very good feeling for Japan. The impression I got of Hungary, to put it in a nutshell, is that it was unexpectedly quiet.

"Rumors say that Turkey is on the verge of entering the war, but that is Anglo-American propaganda. I consider that Turkey still believes in neutrality and will stick to the policy she heretofore maintained. As a result of the betrayal of the Badoglio regime, the Italian garrison troops in Croatia, Serbia, Greece and Albania have collapsed, and Germany has taken care of these areas. The situation there is being very well handled by Germans.

"A very great contribution is being made to Germany by various Balkan countries which are agricultural through foodstuff materials. Accordingly, Germany's policy toward the Balkans is firmly established. While the Anglo-Americans are maintaining a position suggestive of immediate landing on the Balkan Peninsula, the Germans give the indication of being ready to cope with it. Establishment of a Federal State of Balkans is out of the question.

"We did not encounter with the large air raid on the Balkans which was staged toward the end of November as it came after our departure. The Balkan countries have absolute confidence in the great systematic power of Germany and remain unshaken.

"Sofia was raided indiscriminately by the Anglo-Americans but bombs which were aimed at a railway station dropped into a graveyard in the suburbs, and it was made a laughing stock among the people. We shouldn't overestimate the damage of air raids. According to Mr. Ushiba, not much damage had been done up to the serious air raid at the end of November. Because the Anglo-Americans are aiming at the destruction of the residential and laborers' districts, the munitions plants are safe.

"In Germany even a private has confidence in fighting against the Anglo-Americans. These soldiers have a high fighting morale and are full of confidence that they will sooner or later give a hard beating to the enemy and make time prostrate. They have the stern and unshakable feeling that it would be ludicrous to show surprise at this time at the material power of the Anglo-Americans.

"I hear views to the effect that is why Germany doesn't carry out early the retaliatory bombing as declared by Propaganda Minister Joseph Goebbels, but I consider it is correct judgment to say that they are making careful preparations in order to make the retaliation effective. The determination of the entire people never to be beaten because of the serious consequence, their absolute confidence in Reichsfuehrer Hitler and other leaders, perfect foodstuff policy and price policy, etc. form the true underlying strength of Germany. It seems that in the coming year much anticipations are being entertained in a large production increase due to the extension of productivity."

P.I. PRISONERS GAIN AMNESTY

Step Taken by Laurel As Christmas 'Gift'; To Work on Farms

Domei

MANILA, December 26.—In an effort to further spread Christmas cheer, President Jose P. Laurel yesterday granted pardons to a total of 243 prisoners confined at Iwahig and San Ramon penal colonies as well as suspended the sentence of one prisoner.

The released convicts will be assigned to work on Government farms for the duration of their unexpired prison terms in order to bolster the food production campaign launched by the Government.

Filipinos Fete X'mas

Domei

MANILA, December 25.—Christmas today dawned upon the Philippines for the first time under the new Republic and thousands of Filipinos were found outdoors coming out of churches where the Birth of Christ was again enacted with traditional solemnity and universal rejoicing.

(Continued on Col. 6 P. 2)

5th Group Army Planned By Nanking Government

Domei

NANKING, December 26.—Following the dissolution of the First Group Army by the decree issued on Thursday, it is learned the National Government will organize the Fifth Group Army incorporating officers and men of the First Group Army and various provisionally formed divisions. This unit will be placed under the command of General Hsiang Chihch-wang, Peace Commissioner of North Kiangsu, who will operate in Suh-wai area.

This measure which is one of the first in the plans of the Government for reorganization and strengthening of the armed forces is regarded as an indication of greater importance attached by Nanking to the Suh-wai district politically, economically and militarily. The step was approved by the Supreme National Defense Council last Thursday.

General Li Chang-kiang, Commander-in-Chief of the former First Group Army, has meanwhile been appointed Deputy Chairman of the Military Advisory Coucil.

84TH DIET GIVEN REPORT ON WAR

Matsudaira Submits Upper House Reply To Imperial Message

RECESS TILL JANUARY 20

War Minister General Hideki Tojo, and Navy Minister Admiral Shigetaro Shimada reported the latest war developments before the House of Peers this morning. The same reports will be made before the House of Representatives this afternoon.

The plenary session of the House of Peers was opened at 10 a.m. this morning. The draft response of the House to the Imperial Rescript granted in opening the 84th Imperial Diet was submitted and unanimously approved.

President Count Yorinaga Matsudaira proceeded to the Imperial Palace at 11:20 a.m. to submit the response to the Throne, and upon his return to the House, he reported to the members the gracious acceptance by His Majesty the Emperor of the response of the House of Peers to the Imperial Message opening the Diet.

Then, War Minister Hideki Tojo made a detailed report on the latest war developments, and he was followed by Navy Minister Shigetaro Shimada.

Upon the close of the reports by the War and Navy Ministers, the House proposed to express its appreciation to the officers and men at the front. With the approval of the resolution, the House of Peers adjourned.

The House of Representatives will meet in plenary session at 1 p.m. this afternoon. The House will hear the reports of the War and Navy Ministers on the latest war situations. The House of Representatives is also scheduled to pass a resolution expressing thanks to the officers and men at the front.

The House of Representatives will also express condolence to the family of the late Toyokichi Toyoda, a member of the House.

Concluding their sessions today, both the House of Peers and the House of Representatives will adjourn until January 20, but will be in readiness to meet whenever demanded.

The House of Representatives appointed the chairmen of various committees, including Toshio Shimada, Chairman of Budget Committee; Suyegoro Kawasaki, Chairman of Accounting Committee; Tomesaburo Shimizu, Chairman of Petitions Committee; Shichiro Kihara, Chairman of Proposals Committee; Torataro Ushizuka, Chairman of Discipline Committee; Shizuo Makino, Chairman of Plenary Committee.

MANCHOUKUO TO PUSH COLONIZATION SYSTEM

Increased Food Output Also Planned for 1944

Domei

HSINKING, December 26.—With the coming to a close of the second year of the second five-year plan, the Manchoukuo colonization program is prepared to greet the third year with great plans.

A speedy stabilization of colonization and increased production are the two principal goals set by the colonization program for the coming year.

For the realization of the former goal, plans for the sending of colonists from Japan will be made more positive and greater stress will be laid to meet the demands of Manchoukuo.

The number of colonists planned by the program for next year is approximately 62,500 houses which include various volunteer and training corps and other colonists from both Japan and Manchoukuo.

For the realization of the latter goal of increased production, a plan for general mobilization is contemplated. Plans are laid to secure the self-sufficiency of foodstuffs in both Japan and Manchoukuo with efforts directed toward more scientific and practical farming.

Franco Grants Amnesty

Domei

LISBON, December 26.—Spanish Chief of State General Francisco Franco on Christmas Day granted amnesty of 196 persons, who were arrested at the time of the Spanish revolution and sentenced to death, according to Madrid reports.

TOBACCO PRICES GET NEW BOOST

Smoke Addicts Must Pay More to Help Nation Win War

The Finance Ministry announced the advance of the prices of cigarettes, cigars and pipe tobaccos by an average of about 50 per cent, effective this morning. The present raise is expected to increase the tobacco revenue by ¥528,000,000 a year.

The extra profit to be realized by retail tobacco shops in selling their old stock at the increased prices will be donated to the Government, the Finance Ministry also announced. Homare is the only brand that has not been affected by the price advance move.

New prices of cigarettes, cigars and pipe tobaccos are as follows:

Revised Tobacco Prices

Cigarettes:	Number per package	Old price	New price
Shikishima	20	¥0.65	¥1.00
Asahi	20	.45	.70
Hibiki	20	.25	.35
Tsubaki	20	.25	.35
Fuso	10	1.20	1.80
Sakura	10	.45	.70
Hikari	10	.30	.45
Hoyoku	20	.50	.70
"	10	.25	.35
Akatsuki	10	.30	.45
Kinshi	10	.15	.23
" (*)	10	.10	.15
Homare	20	.07	No ch.
Japanese pipe tobacco:	Grams		
Shiraume	30	1.00	1.50
Ayame	30	.50	.75
Minori	30	.30	.45
Hagi	30	.20	.30
" (*)	30	.13	.18
Fukkien	150	.50	.70
Cigars:	Number per box	Old price	New price
Gloria	25	125.00	190.00
Orientales	25	50.00	75.00
"	5	10.00	15.00
Londres	25	20.00	30.00
"	5	4.00	6.00
Paloma	5	2.30	3.50
Taiwan cigars:			
Dalton	10	4.60	7.00
Imported cigars:			
Coronas	25	150.00	225.00
Excellentes	25	140.00	210.00
Alcades	50	140.00	210.00
Selesas	50	115.00	170.00
Begasus	50	65.00	100.00
Chekas	100	80.00	120.00
El Conde	25	200.00	300.00
Especiales	25	80.00	120.00
Legios	25	75.00	110.00
Ciemas Finas	50	90.00	133.00
Pipe tobacco:	Grams		
Momoyama	100	5.50	8.00
"	50	2.75	4.00

(1): Special rationing.

Soviets Meet Iron Defense

(Continued From Page 1)

the most bitter fighting on the whole of the Eastern Front, and the battle is still becoming fiercer and fiercer. On this front, the Soviets have, for the first time since the summer offensive, begun a real and earnest counter-offensive.

German military authorities are emphasizing that the Soviets have not been able to reach their first objectives in the attack, namely the towns of Polozk and Nevel, and that German counter-attacks have been strengthened, it is reported. However, the fact is admitted by the quarter that the war situation on the aforementioned front has already entered the second stage and is becoming extremely grave as the Soviets, mobilizing more than 20 divisions of crack troops, are recklessly continuing their attacks from the East, North and West.

It is especially noted that the Soviets are trying to break through the deeply fortified German positions by throwing into the battle great masses of tanks of extremely simple construction regardless of losses, in never ending surprise attacks and night thrusts.

However, the German Army strategically as well as tactically is especially cautious in this middle northern sector, on account of the danger of large forces being encircled and wiped out. Thus, it is not difficult to imagine that the German forces will avoid any unnecessary exhaustion of their fighting power.

Since the fortifications of the Germans at Nevel are extremely deep the Soviets, instead of advancing directly to the Latvian border with Riga as their goal, as the German side expected, have shifted their spearhead toward the Polish border with Vitebsk and Polozk as their goal. It is expected that the Soviets, after reaching Polozk, will again turn to the west and continue their advance along the Dvina River.

According to a telegraphic report from Moscow to the Exchange News Agency, the German troops at Nevel are in possession of well-prepared underground positions and are continuing a tactically favorable battle against the Soviet counter-thrusts.

P.I. Scientists Find Many New Cures From Herbs, Plants Grown in Isles

Domei

MANILA, December 27.—The old folks have a cure for appendicitis which, according to some men of science, does not exactly border on the empirical side of medicine. Instead of an appendectomy the suffering patient may simply take each morning, for three consecutive Fridays, a concoction made of fresh chickens' gizzards boiled in water, the belief being that the gizzard of a fowl is a powerful digestant and cures by absorbing the inflammatory products from the diseased appendix.

Needless to state, modern medicine in the Philippines has long since scoffed at this treatment, and there's scarcely a Filipino of the present generation who would knowingly submit his troublesome appendix to the supposedly amazing curative properties of fowls' gizzards. But we cite this instance as an example of our not entirely resourceless forbears.

In the Philippine medical literature one finds a lot of materials relating to native medical practices indicative of the resourcefulness of the Filipinos in the matter of preserving their physical well-being against the threat of a host of diseases. And if, albeit empiric in his methods, the herb-doctor of past generations has been known to have effected miraculous cures, this is largely because he used and had at his reach hundreds of medicinal plants.

Ample Medicinal Plants

In Philippine medicine, the age of quackery is gone, but the medicinal plants of the country are still here and their usefulness has scarcely been exploited to the full. Thus, when we hear it spoken today that there is self-sufficiency in medicine in the Philippines, it is because, not only are Filipino pharmaceutical manufacturers are ever on the alert to provide the nation with sufficient stocks of medical products but, the Philippines is luckily blessed with this abundance of medicinal plants from which thousands of patent medicines and similar products could be manufactured.

Since the beginning of the nineteenth century, studies have been made on medicinal plants of the Philippines and not a few foreigners have devoted their time to the subject. As early as 1669, the work of a Jesuit, Father Francisco Ignacio Alcina, attracted attention; for in his "Historial Natural del Visayas" (Natural History of the Visayas), he devoted considerable attention to the curative powers of Philippine medicinal plants.

Before Alcina's time, we have it on record that a Franciscan, Father Blas de la Madre de Dios, had already published his observations on the diverse therapeutic powers of certain native herbs. In this connection, it must be remembered that the priest of long ago, in the absence of the trained physician, served not only as a curate of the soul but also as guardian of the physical well-being of each member of the parish.

In 1768, Padro Fernando Santa Maria edited his "Medicinas Caseras" and in 1879 was published the monumental work of the Filipino Agustinian, Father Ignacio Mercado, on medicinal plants and their place in native medicine. Previous to this, Father Manual Blanco, a renowned botanist, had published his now classic book "Flora de Filipinas."

Another distinguished Filipino scholar, Dr. Pardo de Tavera published a work on the subject in 1892. He included in his treatise 214 species of medicinal plants, discussing lengthily the medical properties of each.

New Discoveries Made

The interest which medicinal plants of the country have attracted on the part of scholars and scientists has not waned even to this day, so that even under the Republic we find a number of Government experts, along with physicians and pharmacologists working on their own, devoting their attention to the study of these plants. Their efforts seem to be all directed toward one subject: the discovery of hundreds of uses for which these herbs would serve.

By way of giving the public a general idea on the possibilities of the studies being made, we give hereunder illustrations of how certain Philippine plants have been found as suitable cure for various disorders. In a recent article published in a Tagalog journal, Dr. Eduardo Quisumbing, of the Bureau of Science, gave the following interesting facts:

As a cure for asthma, which is a rather common disease in the Philippines, the dry leaves of Talong Punay (datura metel) have proved to be effective. The leaves are prepared in cigarette form and smoked by the patient. For diarrhea, the bark and leaves of guava trees are used and have also proved to be efficacious. Likewise, the leave and fruit of the Duhat tree (syzygium cumini) may be used as astringent. The manzanilla (chrysanthemum indicum) flowers, on the other hand, are known to be effective as a carminative and help in the cure of empatso (looseness of bowels) among children. Also in popular use for this intestinal disorder are anis (foeniculum vulgare), herba buena (mentha arvensis and romero (Rosmarinus officinalis).

The Philippines is rich in medicinal plants that can yield cathertics, and among these plants may be mentioned the salago (wikstroemia ovata), the tagan-tagan (ricinus communis) which is a source of castor oil, and the sampalok (tamarindus indica) fruits, which serve as a first class cathartic.

Cure For Diabetics

Of interest to diabetics is the fact that in the Philippines are at least three plants that may bring relief to patients. Drinking duhat (syzygium cumini) juice and eating duhat fruits is recommended for diabetics; in some cases, the powdered leaves and duhat beans are also administered to patients. Boiled banaba (lagerstroomia speciosa) leaves are likewise recommended, as are the young leaves of the popular leamote (sweet potato).

The absence of the theobramine and similar medicines do not worry the Filipino physician so much, for the reason that there is a substitute available locally in the form of kabling gubat (orthosiphon aristatus), the leaves of which may be used as tea; and the resulting drink is said to aid in the elimination of substances in the bladder and kidneys. A drink made of powdered roasted corn grains brings about the same results.

For dyspeptics, the papaya (carica papaya) is a good fruit to eat, according to experts. This is so because of the papain contents of this fruit. The pakuwan (citrullus vulgaris) is a good cure for high-blood pressure, while a salve made from makabuhay (tomospora rumphii) stems or lubigan (acorus calamus) beans have been known to be effective as a dispenser of relief to people suffering from rheumatism.

Press Comments

(Continued From Page 1)

terial quantity" which is the enemy's only hope.

Help India Quickly

TOKYO SHIMBUN—Due to British maladministration and exploitation of many years' standing the great masses of India are now suffering from famine and diseases. This is a very distressing affair. A report presented by Colonel Leopold S. Amery, British Secretary of State for India, to the House of Commons, shows that the Indians who died from hunger and diseases exceeded 90,000 in number. But the actual number is surely 20 or 30 times larger than the Secretary's report. Amery stated that food is being given to 2,000,000 people every day, indicating that though the matter of supplying food is open to doubt, yet the hunger of the 2,000,000 people was incidentally admitted by Amery himself.

Hitherto, what the British administration gave to India was nothing more than poverty, hunger, diseases, illiteracy and fueds. The wealth of India is increasing yearly, but the people of India are becoming impoverished day by day because of the exploitation of Britain.

William Hunter used to say that the "40,000,000 Indians are always unable to forget even once their thought about hunger." Diseases are concomitants of this poverty. The Britons who rob the Indians of even their salt will never give them any medicine. The primary schools for the Indian children have decreased nearly to half number as compared with the early stage of the British administration. Britain is elated over the practice of the crafty "divide and rule" system brought about by keeping the people ignorant and intensifying religious fueds.

Now, however, the Indian masses have become awakened. The great banner of the Provisional Government of Free India as unfurled by Subhas Chandra Bose is proving to be the dawn of India. Wielding very cunning methods, Britain is trying to continually deceive the Indians. But the Indian masses remember the most serious bloodshed perpetrated by British betrayal. In the First World War, 700,000 Indians were lured to the battlefields with the bait of political freedom but once the war ended, Britain forgot this promise. Was it not this Britain which slaughtered numberless Indians even at a truce celebration?

And here is a great idiot in the person of Chiang Kai-shek who is reported to have made a plaintive appeal to Mahatma Gandhi and the Indian Congress leaders to cooperate in the war against Japan. One of the aspirations of the War of Greater East Asia is to secure the liberation of India. Hence, it means that resistance against Japan amounts to a great treacherous act of seeking to keep the 380,000,000 Indians continually as the slaves of Britain. Not content with being a traitor to the Chinese, Chiang is intent on becoming a traitor to the Indians, a fact which induces us to regard him as a traitor to all the peoples of Greater East Asia.

Of late, new American units have come to India. With the opening of the regular American-Indian air route between the State of Ohio and Karachi, the Indians have come to face both the tiger before the front gate and the wolf at the back gate. The friction between the Indian troops and the Anglo-American forces is growing worse day by day, the so-called rebellious troops being reported to have mounted to 100,000 in number. Though the Anglo-American camp has a strong intention of carrying out a counter-offensive in Burma, yet without cooperation of the Indian troops, there would be no way for the Anglo-American forces but to remain stagnant in the mountains of northern India.

On one occasion an influential Calcutta newspaper in an editorial stated that in the next great war it was open to doubt if the Indians would extend to Britain the same support as given in the First World War. This prophesy, made six years ago, is now coming true right before our own eyes. The counter-offensive against Burma would be just the chance for the two countries of America and Britain to make the ultimate liquidation in favor of India. Greater East Asia must by this time help the Indians with all its might.

FOOD LACK HITS FOE IN S. ITALY

Anti-Axis Fails to Find Remedy of Feeding Populace

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 24.—The food problem in southern Italy occupied by the anti Axis forces has of late been greatly aggravated. The so-called AMGOT Administration which was formed by the enemy after the treacherous surrender of the Badoglio regime has frantically endeavored to maintain peace and order in her occupied territory, but the acute food problem has resisted all attempts of solution, according to an Associated Press dispatch from Naples.

According to the AMGOT authorities, the extreme shortage of wheat is especially harassing, the dispatch disclosed, and it is expected that the cities in southern Italy face a grim and difficult winter.

The hungry populace of Naples are alloted only 100 grams of bread and 70 grams of flour to the adults. Their destitution becomes all the more pertinent when it is recalled that their daily peacetime consumption amounted to over 500 grams.

Concerning this acute situation, the Chief of the Office of Distribution of the AMGOT declared that he felt that the present supply of foodstuff in the east Apennines and south Salerno regions was sufficient to supply the whole population, but in other areas especially in Naples the population must rely on outside sources.

Certain foodstuffs such as vegetables, fruits and olive oil can to a certain extent be supplied in a part of the city, but it is hardly enough to meet the full demand. As a natural consequence, an aggravated condition of wild speculation and black market remains unabated in spite of strict regulatory measures taken by the authorities.

Meat, milk, eggs and other foodstuffs are especially short and the consequent, prices for those foodstuffs are soaring unchecked. In Naples, for example, prices of vegetables have shown an unprecedented increase of over 80 to 100 per cent over last year, while on the other hand, wages have increased not more than 58 per cent.

P.I. ART SHOW FEATURES BATTLE FOR FREEDOM

Large Crowds View Works by Rizal

Domei

MANILA, December 25.—Revolving around the theme, "Rizal's Dream Realized," an art exhibit has been opened at the National Art Gallery on the second floor of the Legislative Building, graphically portraying the Filipinos' heroic struggle for freedom.

The exhibit features the milestones on the road to Philippine liberty starting in the year 1521 when the native chieftain, Lapulapu, killed Ferdinand Magellan in battle, and climaxing on October 14 this year with the granting of Philippine independence.

Art works by Rizal himself, which would net millions of pesos to art collectors, are now on display including sculptures made by the hero during his student days in Spain as well as books and pamphlets that he wrote in protest against the Spanish rule in the Islands.

Large crowds are daily flocking to the exhibition with the nationwide Rizal Day only six days away. Exhibit officials express the belief that the display of Rizal's works would prepare the Filipinos spiritually for the national festivities commemorating the 47th anniversary of Rizal's execution on Bagumbayan Field two years before the outbreak of the Hispano-Philippine War, which culminated in the overthrow of the Spanish regime.

BOLIVIAN GOVERNMENT SOLIDIFIES STRUCTURE

Many Opponents Flee To Foreign Countries

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 25.—The new Bolivian Government is rapidly solidifying its stand and the various strata within the country seem to be manifesting all-out support. The Carama Regiment, which at the time of the coup d'etat had pledged allegiance to General Enrique Penaranda and offered the greatest resistance to the new government has now submitted.

A few of those belonging to the opposing faction have taken refuge within the embassies of the various nations and are making their escape to foreign countries via air.

The former Bolivian President, Colonel Jose David Toro, is said to have escaped to Peru whence he is scheduled to leave for the United States.

To Try Erring P.I. Officials

Domei

MANILA, December 26.—With a view to increasing the efficiency of Government service, the Malacanan announced that a special tribune will be formed shortly to try all complaints against public officials and employes. It was also revealed that erring public servants will be given stiff penalties.

Typhus Worries Italy Foe

Domei

LISBON, December 26.—The command of the United States 5th army in South Italy has prohibited its troops from entering Naples owing to the increase in the danger of typhus fever, according to reports received here.

P.I. Prisoners Gain Amnesty

(Continued From Page 1)

Christmas in the Islands was formally started at midnight yesterday with bells merrily pealing at the close of church services. As the focal center of the celebration, Manila joyously observed its first Christmas under the sovereign independence of the Philippines.

Christmas services were held in all churches with the Manila Cathedral Church attracting a large number of churchgoers. For the benefit of devotees unable to personally attend the services at the Manila Cathedral Church, rites were broadcast by remote control over Station PIAM, thus enabling thousands of city residents as well as people in the provinces to hear the services.

Long after the church services came to a close, large crowds continued milling in the public plazas talking or singing as well as enjoying the exhilarating crisp night air till dawn broke upon their faces.

Every home in the Philippines was in great festive mood with buntings and electric lights and twigs of pine trees lending color to the celebration. Music bands paraded through streets playing from house to house and spreading Christmas cheer in a big way. Gifts were also given freely and the spirit of Christian charity was deeply ingrained in Filipino hearts. Business was brisk everywhere with the Filipinos enjoying this Christmas more than ever before.

Raids on Open Cities Condemned by Pope

Domei

VATICAN CITY, December 26.—Pope Pius XII, on the occasion of a reception for Roman nobility, condemned the intensification of aerial warfare and especially terror attacks on open cities and villages.

He also pointed out that many people had lost their homes and added that also in the economic and spiritual respects the conduct of the war had brought about disquieting prospects.

Continuing, the Pope stressed that the air attack on the Vatican City was a telling symptom of the spiritual decay of mankind and concluded that confidence in the future must be restored.

Ricci Promoted

Domei

ROME, December 26.—Lieutenant General Renato Ricci, former Commander of the Fascist Militia, was promoted to the rank of a commanding general and, at the same time, appointed Minister of State as well as Commander of the newly-formed Republican National Guard.

Cheng Likely to Head Central China Railway

Domei

SHANGHAI, December 27.—Cheng Hung-nian, who was formerly Vice-Minister of Communications in General Tuan Chi-jui's Government, is expected to be formally appointed as the first president of the Central China Railway Company at today's extraordinary general meeting of shareholders.

It is recalled that the post of president has been vacant since 1939 when the company adopted the presidency system.

Mr. Cheng was born in Kwantung Province and since the establishment of the National Government in 1912 has held various posts, including those of Chief Secretary of the Communications Ministry, Director of the Peking-Mukden Railways Bureau and Vice-Minister of Communications. He also held posts such as Finance Commissioner in the Canton Military Government and Vice-Minister of Finance, as well as that of Executive Vice-Minister of Commerce and Industry under the former National Government at Nanking. He retired from Government service in 1934.

Argentina Gets U.S. Gold

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, December 26.—As the result of an excess in exports to the United States, the Argentine Government has been receiving large shipments of gold from America. Gold bullion, amounting to $1,200,000, recently arrived here from the United States. The amount of gold shipped to Argentina from America to date totals $160,000,000.

Nippon Times
The Nippon Times, Limited
TOSHI GO, President and Editor

TOKYO OFFICE:
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French Rebels Give In

Domei

LISBON, December 26.—Certain rights exercised by the French Committee for National Liberation in Lebanon and Syria are to be restored to those countries, as an agreement concerning the mandate question was signed between General Georges Catroux, who was recently dispatched by the French Committee to Lebanon, and the Governments of Lebanon and Syria, according to Algiers reports. The extent of the rights restored to the two countries has not yet been revealed.

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Publisher and Printer .... SHOICHI KAWAMURA
Office: ....1, 1-chome, Uchisaiwai-cho, Kojimachi-ku, Tokyo